

The North-China Herald

AND SUPREME COURT AND CONSULAR GAZETTE

VOL. CXLVI No. 2896.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1923.

TAELS 12 PER ANNUM.

Enclosed with this issue:
"Weekly Share Supplement."

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

THE TURKISH THREAT TO MOSUL

Feb. 3.

As soon as the Turkish threat of war became something more than a mere diplomatic catch-word, came in fact within the worst possibilities of the situation arising out of disagreements at Lausanne, the name of Mosul very quickly brought itself before the public. As one of the great cockpits of the world, where boundaries are liable to alter with every fluctuation in the fortune of arms, the geography of the Middle East is to the average man a very indeterminate sort of thing. He reads that Turkey, until the other day a state comprising Anatolia, Armenia and such territories in Asia Minor, is preparing to fight on four fronts, and at once Mosul swims into the onlooker's telescopic vision, being mentioned, moreover, as a particular point of danger for the British, presumably the Turks' chief if not actually only opponent. So far as we are concerned the crisis has had two main points of peril, first of all the Dardanelles with respect to the control of which we, as a sea Power, are keenly sensitive, and then Mosul, which touches our interests almost as nearly but on a very different side. We would refer our readers to a map of Mesopotamia, especially if they have one showing the boundaries as fixed in the post-war treaties, and a short study will lead the way to an appreciation of the strategical considerations which have caused the Turkish threat in that quarter to exercise British minds acquainted with that part of the world so keenly. It is just about Mosul, to the north and northwest, that Mesopotamia borders upon the domains of Turkey-in-Asia, and so here would be a natural meeting place for hostile troops. Then somewhat southeast of Mosul lies Bagdad, a city for whose

possession we spent thousands of valuable lives, and we quickly realize that the capture of Mosul by an enemy force would uncover that vital centre of influence in the country.

Some time ago, as we mentioned in these columns, the Bishop of Gibraltar presented a picture to the British public of the Turk as he is to-day, a bitter, reckless nationalist, preaching not only Turkey for the Turks but a yet more far-reaching doctrine of Turkish sovereignty. His ambitions to recover lost territory in Thrace do not require recapitulation here, but this latest phase, a *Drang nach Osten* every whit as pronounced as the Germans had, comes now to the surface. There is more than a suspicion that, knowing the pacific temper of the peoples of Europe, the Turk has been almost angling at Lausanne for a war, and if so it would be along the former German lines that he would propose to extend one series of reconquests. Casting our minds back to the days of the Berlin-Bagdad Railway project, we can recall how it lay across Europe as far as Constantinople, went south-east through Asia Minor to Aleppo, and crossed the desert almost due east to Mosul, thence south to Bagdad. After that, on to Basra was the intention and so to India. The Turks have not forgotten the strategical teachings of their quondam masters, and realizing a wonderful chance to extend their influence in Asia, already on the upgrade through victories in arms and in negotiation, they see every reason for an attempt upon this desert post of Mosul, leading as it might to greater things—Bagdad and beyond. Their type of army suits such warfare as they had in mind. A few dates added to what can be pillaged from the surrounding country are able to keep the Turkish soldier going, and their army can consequently move with a minimum of impedimenta. Against them in such a desert country a modern European army would have little chance unless backed by its wonted supply columns, difficult to bring up in northern Mesopotamia where only a light railway probably

exists and where river traffic is precarious in the extreme. The Turks have shown a readiness to hold out inducements to other Powers to keep off, for there is oil in varying quantities all over that part of the world, and the lure of concessions at Mosul would be likely to make favoured nations very disinterested on-lookers. So the Turk has been gambling, and probably still is, notwithstanding that the chances of peace, which mean at least a temporary end to all these ambitions, are to-day better than for the past week.

A word should be said as to the general political condition of Mesopotamia. As mandatory Power under the Peace Treaty, Great Britain offered the Arabs a ruler, and their choice fell upon Hussein, son of the King of the Hedjaz, without question the leading Arab noble of the present day as well as during the war a staunch ally of the British. It will perhaps be in the mind of our readers that almost as soon as the Turks gained their decisive victory over the Greeks, the district of which Mosul is the centre was subjected to raids by neighbouring tribes of Kurds, acting without question under Turk influence, and this seems to have been the preliminary to the present storm. To-day, as the result of such raids and other events, King Hussein declares that the Arabs under his rule are strongly anti-Turk—a statement which will no doubt evoke the warmest applause and satisfaction of the arm-chair strategists. Unhappily we find ourselves unable to conjure any such satisfaction from it, for we have only to refer back to works such as General Townshend's book or General Maude's despatches, as well as the statements of those who have fought in that country, to know how little reliance, in a military sense, can be placed upon such a statement. The fact of the matter is that the Arabs in that country are not a race of fighters but much rather a race of freebooters. Every commander fighting there during the war found that these nomad bands, which constitute the population,

were always on the winning side, no matter which it was, and like vultures they swept down on any force which had been compelled to retreat, cutting off stragglers and plundering wherever possible. A people with habits such as these may not be relied on in a crisis, and if the worst came to the worst, British troops would stand alone in any struggle which took place. It is as well to remember that in considering the Turkish threats of these recent days, and when the Turk talks of war, even on four fronts, he is doing so after careful calculation of the probabilities. Thanks to the fact that there has been no abiding by treaties, he has been given a chance to provoke a conflict the limits of which it is impossible to determine.

THE RUSSIAN CADETS

Feb. 5.

It is most satisfactory to see that public feeling is being roused on behalf of the three hundred odd Russian cadets in Jessfield Road. So far back as on December 18, if the recollection may be allowed, we urged that the case of these boys called for special consideration, constituting a problem quite apart from that of the ordinary refugee and one that it was impossible to ignore. The unvarnished account which we published last week of how the boys are living in the premises obtained for them cannot but have helped to excite compassion. But the growth of public opinion is curious and unaccountable, for which very few of us have the right to claim any credit. The main point is that it is there, that there is a general feeling that it is impossible to leave the boys to be dragged up anyhow as they are at present; and although it would be premature to speak of any definite scheme having yet been formulated, we may believe that this feeling is shared by those commonly called the authorities as much as by the public at large.

At present the boys have a roof over their heads and their teachers are working bravely to keep the classes together, but very little more can be said. Their food, at an estimated allowance of twenty-five cents a day per boy, is obviously of the most Spartan nature; they have little or no bedding or furniture; and they are very short of school

requisites. These conditions may have improved slightly since we last inquired personally, but the essential need is the same. Part of the problem is that if a special meeting of ratepayers is called and the boys' maintenance is put on the rates, we reverse the whole policy of the Council, which decided some years ago that a poor rate is inadmissible in Shanghai, for reasons which it is difficult to call unjust; while if the matter is left to private generosity, the organization necessary is really beyond the scope of existing societies and self-constituted committees. The solution may, perhaps, be found in a combination of the two methods, the Council providing the machinery, but relying on public charity to provide the wherewithal to keep it going. Some time ago one correspondent suggested in these columns that well-disposed people might adopt some of the boys. Even if this were done, there would still be the others unadopted. But we think a great many people would be glad to guarantee a few dollars each monthly, especially if they knew the money was being administered by the Council. Nor do we think that other charities need suffer through small monthly charges on this score.

It will be realized, of course, that any scheme of the kind suggested must be continued for some years. An adult refugee may be given an equipment, a sum of money and shipped where work is to be found. The cadet must be kept until he is of an age to fend for himself and, if we are to do him any real good, we must see that his training is sound. But this neither should, nor do we believe it will, deter Shanghai from coming to the rescue. To say that we did not seek the responsibility for these boys will not console one of us for turning our backs on it. They themselves are not to blame for coming here: and even if it became feasible to re-ship the older refugees to Russia, one's whole nature revolts from the idea of sending the cadets back to the horrible teaching of the Bolshevik schools. For whatever other charges against the Soviet may be untrue, there appears no doubt that its influence in education is tending steadily, it would almost seem designedly, to general demoralization of its pupils. In a word, the problem is one that the community can only be satisfied to deal with in

the one way. It cannot send the boys elsewhere; it cannot, with any degree of complacency, leave them to rub along as they are. It did not seek this problem and can hardly be blamed for wishing that it had never occurred. But most parts of the world have their peculiar troubles nowadays which, though unsought and undeserved, they are shouldering, as we are sure that Shanghai will shoulder the care of these young Russians.

THE PERSISTENCE OF TRADITION

Feb. 5.

IN these modern days it has become fashionable among numbers of people to sneer at tradition and to refer to it as something which ought to be cast into the limbo of things useless, if not harmful. Nevertheless tradition still plays a much more important part in our lives than we generally admit. Especially among those who proclaim themselves believers in democracy is it regarded with suspicion not unmingled with scorn. Yet, after all, tradition is essentially a democratic thing, for it amounts to nothing more nor less than the summation of the opinions, ideals and outlook of a people at some period of their history. National traditions are in themselves more democratic in spirit than national laws, even though the latter may be made by representatives elected under the widest form of franchise. Tradition is a matter of slow growth and deep roots, and just as trees which take decades to reach maturity stand unshaken against the fury of the tempest and the insidious attacks of plant pests, so tradition persists despite the changed conditions of life of succeeding generations or the attacks of iconoclasts. It requires the force of public opinion to start a tradition on its course through the ages and hence the initial momentum imparted to it is such that centuries may elapse before it ceases to make its effects felt. Time and again men have declared that the old traditions have gone for ever, only to find that eventually they have reappeared, if not in their original form, at least as part of a new outlook to meet new conditions.

A man may be a wanderer for the greater portion of his life, but not all his days does he spend in voyaging through fresh seas or ex-

ploring unknown regions. He must return at times to his old home where his spirit may receive rest and where he enjoys the feeling of security among the things that last. Your Columbus may cut himself off from the old world to delve into the secrets of the new but he returns to his Genoa, for the past calls to him. Your Radical in his old age enters the conservative fold not because he is false to the principles of his early manhood, but because the power of the past is in his bones. Such is the complexity of human nature that a firm may be traditionalist in one sphere and revolutionary in another. There is probably no one, however, who is not a traditionalist in at least one sphere. We all know the type of man who in business adopts the most up-to-date methods, who in politics is an extreme Radical, but who in his theology would not depart one iota from the teachings of the most conservative of the Early Fathers. Likewise, there is the man abreast of the most recent advances in the sciences, who nevertheless believes that the last word in domestic or foreign politics was spoken by the early Victorian statesmen.

Scrape the veneer off the western educated Asiatic and in most cases we find the typical oriental. The traditionalist is found everywhere. We might discover at least one in every Soviet in Russia, in every Communistic committee in Britain, in every company directorate in any part of the world.

THE SPECIE BANK AND SALT MONEY

Feb. 6.

THE action of the Yokohama Specie Bank in Peking in detaining \$2,000,000 of the salt surplus against its payments on certain coupons of the Chinese Reorganization Loan of 1913, on which the Chinese Government is momentarily (that word is to be emphasized) refusing payment, involves an important point of principle, in which respect the bank would not appear immune from criticism. To understand the question properly a few facts of ancient history are necessary. When the war broke out, not all the bonds of the 1913 Loan had been printed, the Russian issue being among those still to come; and the purchasers of this portion were given certificates in lieu. By the time the

printing was done, the war made it impossible to distribute the bonds to holders of these certificates and the bonds were accordingly deposited in the Russo-Asiatic Bank at Petrograd. Some time after the Bolsheviks overthrew the Kerensky Government in November, 1917, they stole these, together with other securities, smuggled them abroad and managed to sell a number of them, principally, we believe, in America, before the theft was discovered. There are thus a doubt set of holders of a part of the Russian issue of the 1913 Loan, and a year ago the Chinese Government announced that unless holders of the Russian issue of the loan—no other issue is affected—could prove that they had held their bonds since before December, 1917, it intended to withhold payment until the numbers of bonds and certificates should have been compared in Paris and sure information could be obtained as to the rightful owners. It is to be observed that the Chinese Government does not repudiate payment on these Russian bonds: it merely holds up the money, pending investigation, in order to avoid the possibility of paying twice.

According to a statement of the Yokohama Specie Bank, printed in the "North China Standard," the bank only received formal notice of the Chinese Government's decision on January 24, 1922, this coming through the Chinese Legation in Tokio, by which time it had already cashed coupons of the Russian issue to the value of £107,476. But the same statement shows that in the previous month (December, 1921) it had already received a communication from the Russo-Asiatic Bank, which must have suggested to it that there was something amiss and have put the Yokohama Specie Bank on its guard. Furthermore, the decision of the Chinese Government to withhold payment on the Russian issue, pending investigation in Paris, was well known a year ago and so far as we know no other foreign bank was beguiled into paying on coupons on which it could not recover from the Government. Indeed there was naturally some dismay among holders of Russian issue which had been bought in perfect good faith, when they learnt that they might not after all be the rightful owners.

The point of principle involved

in the bank's retention of part of the salt surplus is that this money, like the Customs funds, is deposited with the foreign banks only for the security which in these troublous times the Chinese banks cannot be counted on to afford. It has been and is a grievance with the Chinese that their banks are not entrusted with funds which belong to their Government, the answer being that there is no question of want of confidence in their *bona fides*, but merely in their physical ability, should a crisis occur, to protect the money. These funds, however, remain to the credit of the Chinese Government, standing in the names of the heads of the Gabelle and the Customs, and the invariable practice of the foreign bankers has been to pay out only on their order. Instances, it is true, have occurred in which attempts were made to persuade the foreign banks to hold up these funds, but, led by the British banks, they have steadily refused to do what would in fact be tantamount to a breach of banking honour. The "North China Standard" of February 2 says that the Yokohama Specie Bank "is determined to take suitable steps although it has not yet taken any action." We trust that this paper is right and the Reuter message published yesterday wrong. For to hold up the surplus, after the warning given by the Chinese Government, is to strengthen the Chinese bankers' complaints and touches the prestige of all foreign banking institutions.

"SHANGHAILANDER" AND THE CADETS

Feb. 6.

THE most obvious retort to "Shanghaiander's" letter to-day is that it might have done very well if written before Admiral Stark had brought the cadets here and if it had then been possible to stop him. The awkward fact is that there are the boys and that common feelings of humanity boggle equally at leaving them as they are and turning them out. A great many people, even if "Shanghaiander" is not among them, feel it a moral duty that Shanghai should do something for the boys, who are here through no fault of their own and for whom there is no particularly comfortable prospect elsewhere.

"Shanghaiander" may reply that Vladivostok is quite ready to receive them. But when he talks of the "safe and sure surroundings" from which they were removed, the training that the Soviet would give them "to become useful members of the New Russia" and the boys left behind being "very much better off both as regards food, clothing, lodging and teaching" than the cadets in Shanghai, he assumes vastly more than he has any business to do. How does he know all this? It is true that Captain Allen supports him and that the Vladivostok authorities are plainly very anxious to impress foreign traders favourably. But "P. J. B." is not the only writer who has demurred strongly to Captain Allen's view of the Soviet's treatment of the Whites and it is quite possible that the Vladivostok Reds' behaviour towards their compatriots and towards foreigners may differ very considerably. "*Strauss Engel Hauss Teufel*." The only trustworthy way of knowing how anybody of a White complexion is treated in Vladivostok is, as another correspondent says to-day, to get a refugee's passport and go there.

FRENZIED FINANCE INDEED

Feb. 7.

By common consent figures make heavy reading. But the tale told by those which Reuter sends us from Peking, in connexion with the short term loan that is to tide the Government over the New Year, is really so appalling, that we would earnestly ask our readers, especially Chinese, to bear with us in a little simple analysis. The loan, we have been told, is to be nominally for \$12,000,000, but the issue price being fixed at 82, this is immediately reduced to \$9,840,000. From this, however, the underwriters are to be allowed to deduct six per cent., which brings down the net yield to the Government to no more than \$9,279,600. The term of the loan, Reuter says, is to be six months or a year and thus, as the interest is to be eight per cent., at the end of whichever term is chosen the Government will have to repay \$12,960,000. By simple subtraction we find that it will be paying \$3,680,400 for its money, or roughly speaking forty per cent. Meanwhile of the little that the

Government hopes to handle, more than one third has to go merely in payments on former borrowings. Could anything more utterly ruinous be imagined!

By an interesting coincidence we have received, practically simultaneously with the news of this loan, an announcement of a "nation-wide demonstration" which the Shanghai Chinese General Chamber of Commerce has decided to organize in favour of disbandment of troops, constitutional government and reform and regulation of national finances. This demonstration is to take place simultaneously on a given day—March 11 is suggested—in all the chief cities of China; the principals of all middle and higher schools are to be pressed for their cooperation, there are to be monster processions and all shopkeepers are to be asked to close their shops for the day in token of sympathy. We would not be thought to discourage the Chinese business classes from any action that may help to work them up to taking an active interest in their country's affairs. But, apart altogether from the shortness of the time allowed for the arranging of a simultaneous movement of this kind all through China, the thought occurs that a great many processions have been held under the Republic to protest against this and that, and precious little has come of them. It may be that the demonstration planned by the Chamber of Commerce is only a beginning, to lead up to more drastic action later. Let us hope it is so. For indeed one thinks that the provincial military barons will need much more of a fright than public processions can give them before they will be persuaded to cut down their armed forces and contribute something to the national exchequer to avert ruinous borrowing of the sort described above.

The weak point in the remedies that we see advocated for China's present misfortunes is that they are directed at symptoms of the disease rather than at the malady itself. The disbandment of troops sounds attractive; but apart from the probability that the men discharged to-day would be re-enlisted to-morrow; any scheme of disbandment that the Tuchuns would accept would assuredly leave them as strong, relatively to each other, as before. Constitutional government also sounds attractive: but in theory China has already a constitution which, al-

though provisional, is as good as any other, until superseded. What hope is there of a revised constitution being better obeyed than the provisional? Even the cry for financial reform has its pitfalls, for example, the consolidation loan which would certainly be the first proposal and as certainly would mean no more than a new and larger debt in place of the old. None of these remedies goes to the root of the trouble, which is simply this: that under the Empire there was one power which could remove an official who misbehaved himself, while under the Republic every man is as good as his neighbour or better. That is why revenue has ceased flowing from the provinces to Peking and at every China New Year and Mid-Autumn Festival the Central Government is forced to borrow on terms that become more and more onerous as it eats up its negotiable securities. There is no cure for this until the provincial leaders can be induced to come together and subscribe sincerely to some form of government which they will all accept, in defence of which they are ready to combine against any of their number who try to defy it and which will be assured of the wherewithal to carry on the essential services of the nation. This is the problem which it lies with China's business men to solve, as in other countries business men have done, and that with the least possible delay. For surely finance of the sort now practised by Peking is the very ante-chamber of bankruptcy.

THE CHINA NEW YEAR SETTLEMENT

Feb. 8.

THE China New Year settlement is proceeding in comparatively uneventful fashion. Notwithstanding the steady drain on Shanghai's silver stocks during the past year for the purpose of providing the inhabitants of the interior with hard cash as a substitute for too frequently depreciated notes, the native banks are well enough supplied with funds to meet the requirements of their *clientèle*. Although prosperity was very largely absent from business during the year and losses have been incurred in many directions, the great majority of the merchants appear to be in a position to tide over this settlement, and up to the present only one failure

the side of the Central Powers during the war. It is the fact that Ludendorff during the last two years of the war was guiding the destinies of these Powers that so increases his measure of opprobrium.

Ludendorff the soldier is a sufficiently striking figure for us to give him a certain amount of attention to-day when he has come so violently into the enmity of the Austrian working classes. His book on the war is a good guide to the man to whom public opinion has assigned the character of a relentless leader, one who regarded his troops as so much cannon fodder. One may wonder whether this is just, for there is one passage in his book displaying a very human side to him and which deserves to be remembered. It is where he speaks of the lot of the soldier on the battlefield:

Heavy indeed is the burden of the infantry in this as in other wars. They have to endure the heaviest bombardments of the enemy, lying quietly in dirt and mud, in damp and cold, hungry and thirsty, or huddled in dugouts, holes and cellars they must await the overpowering assault, until leaving the safety of their shelters, face to face with death, they must rise to meet the destroying storm. Such is their life. . . . The glory is great. But the highest reward lies in the proud consciousness of having served the Fatherland more than all others, and in the sense that one's courage has wrung victory out of battle. Those who have stayed at home cannot picture it to themselves too often. Before such heroism they must bow the head—and not talk.

He pays an equal tribute to the other arms of the service, particularly the airmen and gunners, the latter "the keystone of the battle and the mainstay of the front", and deplores their heavy losses. These are the words of a leader with a proper pride in his men, the same men whom he sent to death by the thousand in his efforts to win the war for Germany. That, however, is the business of a General, and if the German leaders were more prodigal of human life than others, they were obeying tradition instilled during their training. It was on Ludendorff's shoulders that the burden of the final desperate offensive rested, and a defeated nation is little apt to palliate failure. Yet it would be wrong to describe Ludendorff as the grave-digger of Germany, for the first sod of that grave was actually turned at the Marne in 1914, and if it be necessary to

apportion blame, then the men who, with so much in their favour, failed on that occasion, must take the responsibility. It is a striking fact that throughout the war Germany never recovered from the position in which she was placed by that initial defeat.

More than these general considerations, however, must be held to apply in the case of the present Austrian resentment, and we find an almost personal element in the case. Austria's record in warfare is an unhappy one. Serbia time and again defied her efforts, and not until Mackensen's phalanx was despatched to the scene was that heroic little country over-run. It was, too, against the Austrians that the Russian offensives of 1915 and 1916 were most successful. Not only were many of the Austrian troops disaffected—those of non-Teutonic origin whose sympathies were generally on the other side—but success did not wait upon their commanders. In circumstances such as these Hindenburg was given complete command of the eastern front, and we know that when the name of Hindenburg is mentioned we really talk of his Quartermaster-General, Ludendorff. The campaigns of the Central Powers on that front are one long record of a stiffening of the Austrian armies by German divisions, of Germans superseding the higher Austrian commanders, and of the dragooning of the Austrian nation by Germany generally. Even in those days dissatisfaction in the Austrian ranks was rife at this arrangement, and apparently it has remained to this day, when it is found directed against this one man especially. Then when the whole war was entrusted to Ludendorff we find that he was equally concerned with problems of feeding and maintaining the morale of this civilian populace as with military matters, and it is certain that the Austrians have a bitter recollection that they seemed to receive less than their share of food. Doubtless too, when Karl had ascended the throne and was looking for a way to a separate peace, the influence of Ludendorff was heavily in the scales against him. Need we wonder then that the man who was once the brains of a popular idol finds himself the most detested of creatures among a people at last able to give tongue to their own opinions?

NOTES & COMMENTS

The Cold Weather

There are constant remarks just now on the subject of the cold weather, and as often as not it is said that the winter is colder than the average, leading to suggestions that seasons generally are becoming more chilly. The temperature at any given moment, of course, has a very great effect on opinion, and in case any impressions require to be corrected we may as well quote the experiences of people who remember things. One informant would remind us of the fact that there used to be skating on the ponds of Hongkew in the old days—when winters were really cold—but he believes that the last occasion was 30 years ago. There are still ponds not far from Hongkew he mentions, but where the skating? Then another thing: in days gone by when the pilots of the ports went about their business at the mouth of the river in schooners, as contrasted with the steamers of the present day, days would occur when the anchor chain was frozen solid in a huge mass of ice, and even if it could have been moved, the sails were so equally frozen that they could not have been set. Of course with steamers in use the effect of spray on deck is no longer so severely felt—a little ice at the very most—but even so no winter nowadays is so severe as to suggest what was a frequent sight in the past—the whole body of pilots on board wielding pickaxes in an effort to free the anchor chain. Some of those who feel the cold to-day may take consolation from these statements and thank their stars they were not exposed to the buffeting of the weather in such inclement days.

Party Colours

A correspondent propounds the following:—

I take the liberty of asking your assistance in settling an argument which has arisen in connexion with pre-war politics at Home, and shall be glad if, from your store of information, you can supply the correct answers to the following:—What were the Liberal Party colours? What were the Unionist Party colours? Are the colours of the respective parties or associations in England and in Scotland the same?

We rather doubt whether these questions can be answered directly, for we do not think there ever has been any arbitrary rule laid down as to party colours. Unionist headquarters usually paraded under primrose as their main colour scheme, as a tribute to Disraeli, whilst in a general way the Liberals favoured dark blue, but, on the other hand, we know of many instances in Scotland where the Unionist banner has been blue. However, whatever the party colours may be, if there are any, constituencies usually have individual selections, which change with the candidates. For instance, North-west Norfolk used to be dark blue

for Joseph Arch (Radical), pink and purple for Sir W. H. B. Folkes and various other Unionists who fought it, whereas King's Lynn, a Parliamentary borough in the same area, although sticking to blue, had another plain colour—and always a different one—for every Unionist candidate. Perhaps some one else may have more definite knowledge, but we do not think there are any regularly accepted colours.

Window-Dressing

It may or may not be advisable to take a pinch of salt with those statements in Reuter's letter, published to-day, from Vladivostok, which do not come under the correspondent's own observation. Vladivostok is plainly anxious to impress foreign business men favourably, and Vladivostok is now only another name for Moscow. The question is, in what spirit are these concessions to private trading made? It has been wittily said of Russia to-day that "Bolshevism is dead but there is no undertaker." In other words, the Communists are still supreme, although they have had to relinquish communistic practices in business. At heart they are unchanged and as we know that it is part of their aim to revive Russia with the deliberate intention of making trouble abroad, we may well view their present overtures with suspicion. *Et dona ferentes.*

Lord Curzon Explains

The interview with Marquis Curzon reported in to-day's telegrams is exceedingly illuminating. He says that all important issues between Great Britain and Turkey are settled, and that where a deadlock still prevails, it is France and Italy who are mainly concerned. This explains a great deal—why Lord Curzon left Lausanne, why M. Bompard was left to have a final try at persuading Ismet Pasha to sign, the recent outburst of Turkish fury against France for, as was alleged, slipping unpalatable clauses into the treaty, and the conflict of reports from Paris and Constantinople as to the Turkish readiness or otherwise to sign. Prognostication thus becomes mere guess-work, but the big British fleet and air force in the Dardanelles will probably be, what it has been all through, the principal factor in guiding the Turks to reasonableness.

Terminological Exactitude

A spirit of accuracy is abroad in the community, and we find ourselves taken to task for announcing that a jewel robbery occurred in Nanking Road yesterday. The facts of the case were that a man, apparently an intending purchaser, quietly left the shop in question while business was being conducted, and shortly afterwards a diamond valued at over \$3,000 was found to be missing. A case of theft,

suggests our mentor, but never robbery. Perfectly true; there ought to be something in the nature of a hint of violence or force about a case of robbery, so, we presume, making it the more heinous crime. In the same way, we are called upon to note, a burglary may not be committed during the day, except in certain of the American States. Under common law a burglary takes place in the night "or when there is not daylight enough to discern a man's face," but we believe that certain hours are sometimes specified. Otherwise, apparently, the case comes into the category of ordinary housebreaking. So the world makes its laws and its terminological distinctions, and the bad characters carry on their jobs of work little heeding them until snaffled or otherwise brought to book by the appointed guardians.

A Terror from Mukden

A certain amount of excitement appears to prevail among our Chinese contemporaries over the report that the Mukden Arsenal has succeeded in producing a new type of gun. Details are unfortunately very vague, but it is called a "scattering gun" capable of shooting off 100 bullets, or possibly pieces of shrapnel, at one time. Whether bullets or shrapnel are meant we are not told, and in fact we are left pretty well in the dark as to its possibilities, which, however, are apparently regarded as considerable. From the meagre particulars given it might, of course, be no more than a field gun, a 15 or 18-pounder specially designed for firing at point-blank range, when we believe the scattering effect of shrapnel is found to be considerable. Or it might prove a reversion to the type of gun in use before the days of modern ordnance, when grape, langridge, case and similar forms of shot, each with a specific purpose, were fired. Such a reversion is not at all outside the probabilities, for during the war we went quite a long way back to the days of mortars, grenades and the like, and then improved upon them.

The Quality of Mercy

Our note on the gift of money and schooling materials for Mme. Diederichs' home for Russian orphans by an anonymous benefactor has brought us, from one of our readers, the dictates of Moses Ben Maimon on the "Eight Degrees of Charity." Their author was a Jewish savant, known as "the second Moses," a Talmudist, philosopher, astronomer and physician. He was born on March 30, 1135, at Cordova, and died on December 13, 1204, at Cairo. The lowest degree of charity is to give because one must, but not willingly. Next comes cheerful giving, but not proportionately to the need. Then, giving cheerfully, proportionately, but only when asked. Then unsolicited giving, "but to put it in the poor man's hand, thereby exciting in him the painful emotion

of shame." The fifth is, to give in such a way that the distressed may receive the bounty, and know their benefactor, without their being known to him. The sixth is to know the objects of our bounty, but remain unknown to them.

The seventh is still more meritorious, namely, to bestow charity in such a way that the benefactor may not know the relieved persons, nor they the name of their benefactors, as was done by our charitable forefathers during the existence of the temple. For there was in that holy building a place called the Chamber of the Silent, wherein the good deposited secretly whatever their generous hearts suggested, and from which the poor were maintained with equal secrecy.

Lastly, the eighth, and the most meritorious of all, is to anticipate charity, by preventing poverty; namely, to assist the reduced fellow man, either by a considerable gift, or a loan of money, or by teaching him a trade, or by putting him in the way of business, so that he may earn an honest livelihood; and not be forced to the dreadful alternative of holding out his hand for charity. * * * This is the highest step and the summit of charity's golden ladder. We forbear to point the moral and adorn the tale. But it will occur at once to a good many people in connexion with a large house not a hundred miles from Bubbling Well.

This Picture and That

A few days ago a letter from our London correspondent reported that there was very nearly a failure of payment of interest on the Hukuang Railway bonds. Subsequently the Chinese Chargé d'Affaires in London issued one of his, we regret to say, conventionally flowery statements about this railway, to convince shareholders of the importance attached to it by the Chinese Government.

But for the War, he said, the line would have been finished long since. Now shortly, however, the 200 miles still to be constructed will be taken in hand. When completed, the whole railway will, by reason of its trunk character, have exactly the same importance to China, though on a vastly larger scale, as the London & North Western or the Midland Railway has to this country. Recent events have, too, impressed on the Peking Government the vital need of placing the completion of this line in the very forefront of all railway constructional work. Facts such as these should make the holders of Hukuang Bonds realize that their investment is one which, from every point of view, makes a very special appeal to the Chinese Government.

The whole statement was a perfect example of Mr. Chu's ingenuity in the manufacture of half truths about China. Now here are some facts as to the actual state of the line, on its upper section:—

Everything goes on in its old rotten way. The permanent way is so bad in places, sleepers being unprocurable through lack of funds, that speed has to be reduced in places to eight miles an hour. The 230 miles from Wuchang to Changsha are usually covered in 25 hours.

One wonders what the state of the line would be if the Chinese Government were less impressed with its importance, and what must be the condition of the railways which do not make the "very special appeal to the Chinese Government" which Mr. Chu claims for the Hukuang.

CHINESE POLITICS

PEKING'S NEED OF FUNDS

Nothing More to Pledge: Frantic Appeal to the Provinces

Peking, Feb. 3.

The Finance Minister, in a circular telegram to the Provinces, states that the Treasury is empty, the revenue from the 11th Year Bonds is exhausted, the Customs and Salt funds cannot be touched and the Government needs \$10,000,000 to tide over the New Year. The provinces should do their utmost to remit funds to Peking.

Admiral Tu Hsi-kuei, Chief of the Navy at Shanghai, interviewed the President this morning and appealed for funds to pay his forces.—Reuter.

Short Term Loan on the Octroi

Peking, Feb. 5.

Semi-official reports state that the Finance Minister at the Cabinet meeting on Saturday proposed a loan of \$12,000,000 at 8 per cent. secured on the Peking Octroi to tide over the lunar new year. The loan will be termed the Short Term Emergency Loan and will probably be for six months or one year. The question will be submitted to the House of Representatives which is expected to discuss it this afternoon. Government officials hope for approval otherwise the Government will be in dire financial straits.

It is reported that the Diplomatic Corps has declined a request for deposit of a portion of the Customs revenue into Chinese banks.—Reuter.

A Ruinous Transaction

Peking, Feb. 5.

The Minister and Vice-Minister of Finance attended the House of Representatives this afternoon and explained the terms of the eight per cent. loan. The issue price will be 82 with a commission of six per cent. \$3,500,000 will be expended on redemption of the recent Special Treasury Debentures and the remainder for administrative expenses to overtake the New Year.

In reply to questions by members, Mr. Liu En-yuan promised to give fuller details as to the expenditure later.

The House went into committee to discuss the proposals but did not vote on them.

The loan will be termed the Twelfth Year Eight Per Cent. Loan (not the Short Term Emergency Loan).

Feb. 6.

The House of Representatives sat in committee this afternoon to consider the details of the Twelfth Year Emergency Loan.—Reuter.

Peking, Feb. 7.

The committee discussion of the Twelfth Year Emergency Loan yesterday by the House of Representatives was without result and no resolution was passed. Government circles are most apprehensive, as Parliament goes into recess shortly till February 25 and they fear that the loan will not be passed before the lunar new year.

The House of Representatives today decided to send a Note to Mr. Liu En-yuan, the Minister of Finance, saying that, as he failed yesterday to keep his promise to give details of the expenditure of the loan, the committee of the House could not carry on the investigation, nor vote on it. The Note warns the Government that it cannot issue any loan without the approval of Parliament during the recess.—Reuter.

Peking, Feb. 8.

The financial situation is rousing great interest among the Chinese and foreigners.

It is very unlikely that Parliament will sanction the proposed loan before the New Year recess, but the Government hope to find sufficient funds from the Salt Surplus and the issue of debentures to the amount of \$2,000,000 to the banks. These debentures, unlike bonds, do not require the consent of Parliament.—Reuter.

Internal Loans' Priority on Customs Surplus

The following telegram from the Shanghai Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, the Shanghai Bankers Association and the Shanghai Native Bankers Association to the Minister of Finance in Peking, is sent us for publication:—

"As stated in the memorandum recently published by Sir Francis Aglen, Inspector-General of Customs, it requires 24 million dollars odd to meet all obligations due in 1923 to the consolidated loan service. Total receipts for 1923 in the form of estimated increase from revised tariff, \$10,000,000, and customs surplus, \$7,300,000, together with balance carried forward from last year, \$2,700,000, are still short of \$4,200,000, even if all these receipts are set aside for the consolidated loan service.

"Without taking into consideration the established priority of consolidated loan service and 96 million dollar loan, Government is said to have already earmarked increased customs receipts for various administrative expenses to the extent of \$13,000,000, leaving a net deficit of \$17,200,000 for the consolidated loan service. Not to say that nothing is available for 96 million dollar loan, even consolidated loan obligations cannot be met in full. As these bonds have been circulating in the market far and wide, any interference with the consolidated loan reserves would cause ruin to many bondholders with far reaching bad effect on the financial and commercial community at large.

"Knowing that you are desirous of preserving national credit as shown in your telegram despatched 27th ultimo, we feel obliged to appeal to you for the maintenance of the established priority of internal loans, all increased customs receipts be set aside for internal loan reserves, Sir Francis Aglen be the custodian with full power to draw on same as acknowledged 1921, so that he will have a free hand to act for the benefit of bondholders and community at large. Payments from Salt Revenue and Ministry of Communications should also be resumed as originally arranged 1921. We believe that anything short of these will invite intervention from foreign creditors and will put our national credit at stake." (Signed as stated above).

THE REORGANIZATION LOAN OF 1913

Yokohama Bank's Claim: Russian Bonds which Soviet Stole

Peking, Feb. 2.

The "North China Standard" states that the Yokohama Specie Bank sent a Note to the Chinese Government demanding a settlement of its account relative to the payment of coupons of the 1913 Reorganization Loan and announcing the seizure of a portion of the Salt Gabelle funds placed in the Bank's custody in case China should fail to settle her account. According to the paper, the Chinese Government has sent a reply to the Bank, refuting the Bank's points and proposing a postponement of the settlement.—Reuter.

Peking, Feb. 3.

It is semi-officially reported that the Ministry of Finance has protested to the Yokohama Specie Bank against its detention of a portion of the Salt Surplus of the last two months for the declared purpose of meeting coupons of the 1913 Reorganization Loan.

The Ministry affirms that the coupons in the possession of the Bank are advance bonds which should have been replaced by actual bonds but the outbreak of the war prevented the Russian bankers withdrawing the advance bonds while the actual bonds were retained in the Petrograd Treasury pending better exchange conditions.

Subsequently, the Ministry continues, the formal loan bonds were taken possession of by the Bolsheviks, who attempted to dispose of them in the London and Paris markets but both Governments entered a caveat. Now, somehow or the other, duplicates have come into the hands of the Yokohama Specie Bank. These coupons are said to amount to £127,585 but the Bank is detaining \$2,000,000.

The Ministry of Finance points out that as the advance bonds issued by the Russo-Asiatic Bank have not been withdrawn the Chinese Gov-

ernment would have to pay twice for the same bond if it were compelled to honour the interest coupons of the duplicate bonds held by the Bank. Moreover, anticipating a possible appearance of such bonds, the Chinese Government informed the Reorganization Loan banks at the end of 1921 that, unless certain formalities were complied with, the loan bonds in question would not be honoured.

The Bank, however, pleads that it did not receive sufficient notice.—Reuter.

CANTON IN THE THROES

Every Man for Himself

Canton, Feb. 7.

Gen. Shen Hung-ying is transferring his Army to the North River but the sincerity of the parties in their desire for peace is doubted as skirmishes are in progress in the East River districts, each military party fighting for its own objects and against the others.—Reuter.

Gen. Shen is reported in the Chinese Press to have moved his troops from the Kuan Yin Mountain, but still occupies positions on the White Cloud Hill, the Yunnanese troops taking up positions at the former place. Shen has, states the Chinese press, sent a personal delegate to Shanghai to welcome Dr. Sun Yat-sen to Canton, but whether or not the latter will accept depends upon the trend of events.

Gen. Hsu Tsung-chih (Dr. Sun's commander in Fukien, who is reported to have moved his troops south with a view to attacking Canton) was expected to arrive in Canton yesterday by gunboat.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen's chief military adviser and nominee for the post of Civil Governor, Gen. Hu Han-ming, has returned to Canton and is staying at the Cement Works, functioning as chief executive of Kuangtung. Two battalions have been despatched from the Fu Sz Chun to act as bodyguards to Hu, states a telegram received by the Dah Tong News Bureau yesterday.

The Canton judicial authorities have decided to refrain from functioning for 20 days as a sign of their disapproval of the release of numerous prisoners by the militia.

An order has been issued by Gen. Yang Hsi-ming, commander of the Yunnanese forces, forbidding his men to force people from their homes and converting them into military camps. Hundreds of people, it is said, are without homes as a result of this high-handed action on the part of the soldiers.

Several hundred shops have been taken over by the military authorities for transformation into gambling houses. The Yunnanese command has forbidden gambling in the streets, while gambling in secret is strictly prohibited.

TSEN CHUN-HSUAN FOR UNITY.

Peking, Feb. 7.

Gen. Tsen Chun-hsuan, one of the influential leaders of the Southwest, has sent a personal message to the

Premier through his delegate, Mr. Tsai Fan-hsi, expressing eagerness to support the Government in its efforts towards reunification.—Reuter.

GEN. NGAI BONG-PING RELEASED

Reasons for the Arrest of Cantonese Leader: Claiming Fruits of "Allied" Victory

A Reuter telegram from Canton, dated February 7, states that Gen. Ngai Bong-ping (Wei Pang-ping) acting Commander-in-Chief of the Cantonese Army, departed for Hongkong on Wednesday after having been held prisoner 10 days by order of the Yunnan-Kuangsi Allied Army. General Ngai was released on Tuesday and it is understood that his departure was a condition of his release.

The reasons for the arrest of Gen. Ngai Bong-ping (Wei Pang-ping) have been explained to a representative of the "North-China Daily News." The arrest itself goes further to confirm the statement, denied later by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, that the Yunnanese and Kuangsi troops attacking Gen. Chen Chiung-ming were accepting his orders, and his only.

When Ngai was in Shanghai he is reported to have met Dr. Sun on a number of occasions and received from him a certificate of appointment as Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Constitutional Armies. His chief duties were to drive out Chen Chiung-ming, control the Yunnanese and Kuangsi forces, and maintain peace and order in Kuangtung province.

The appointment he accepted, but at the same time approached Chen's representative here, Dr. Chen Ho, asking that person to write to his chief stating that he, Ngai, was willing to work in co-operation with Chen and would do his best to further Chen's programme for the reformation of the province. A letter was accordingly sent to Canton, Chen Chiung-ming being in control at that time. This letter, it is said, urged Gen. Chen to unite with Ngai as he was trustworthy and was one of the future leaders of the country. Upon receipt of this Chen was overjoyed, and when Ngai arrived in Canton he was treated royally by Chen, who placed in him the utmost confidence, an honour conferred upon very few persons.

Gen. Chen was warned by his associates against trusting too much a man whom he had driven from Canton some months before. Chen refused to take their advice, and Ngai remained in Canton.

A FATAL MOVE

Upon receipt of news that the Kuangsi and Yunnanese forces were attacking the province from the west, Ngai moved his family to Hongkong for safety and ordered his troops to transfer their camp to Kongmoon, near Canton, as he wished to avoid taking part in the hostilities. Here he

remained until after Chen had been driven from the city.

But he remained there too long. The Kuangsi and Yunnanese soldiers had entered Canton city. Ngai should have been in Canton long before the "visiting troops" arrived. This is where he made his great mistake.

He found to his horror, when he entered the city, that everything was in a turmoil, very far from being as peaceful as he had anticipated. More than 40 military leaders, claiming the position of commander-in-chief, were giving orders which nobody would accept. Immediately upon his entry, Ngai issued a proclamation stating that he had been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Forces by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, and ordering the "visiting" (Kuangsi and Yunnanese) troops to leave the city forthwith in order to avoid misunderstanding and possible friction.

This order also was ignored, and the next thing that people heard was that Ngai Bong-ping had been murdered. The report, however, proved to be incorrect. He had been detained at the headquarters of Gen. Yang Hsi-ming, the commander of the Yunnanese forces and not in the yamen of the Kuangsi leader, Gen. Shen Hung-ying.

Ngai, whose release is now reported, was arrested at a meeting of the Military Council on Friday, January 26. It was his arrest and the coup effected against the Kuomintang that was responsible for Dr. Sun postponing his departure to the south.

The Kuangsi-Tuli

Peking, Feb. 5.

The Kuomintang Members of Parliament are criticizing the Government for its appointment of Gen. Lin Chun-ting as Tuli of Kuangsi as hindering unification. Gen. Tsao Kun and Gen. Wu Peifu also are reported to have urged the Government to appoint Gen. Shen Hung-ying as Tuli of Kuangtung and Gen. Sun Chuan-fang as Tuli of Fukien.

The Premier has replied, refusing, and saying that the recent appointments were made with the object of reunification, which would be hindered if he withdrew them and made fresh appointments. It would also cause much trouble and confusion. Gen. Chang Shou-tseng adds that, if his point of view is not comprehended, he would like to retire from office.—Reuter.

Peking's Foreign Minister

Peking, Feb. 4.

A Mandate issued last night appointed Mr. Huang Fu Acting Foreign Minister and accepted Dr. Alfred Sze's resignation. At least a dozen names were previously mentioned for the post but not that of Mr. Huang Fu who is at present Director of the Financial Conference. Mr. Huang Fu was financial adviser at the Washington Conference, hence it is considered that his advice will be useful in the present financial difficulties of the Government.—Reuter.

OUTPORTS

THE FALL OF CHEN CHIUNG-MING

Some Reasons for his Defeat: A Man Who Tried for too Much Reformation

Gen. Chen Chiung-ming, former Commander-in-Chief of the Cantonese Forces, was not defeated in battle. He lost because he tried to be honest and straightforward. This was the opinion given to a representative of the "North-China Daily News" on Saturday by a gentleman who is in close touch with the situation in the south.

Jealousy and disappointment were given as the chief reasons for Chen's downfall. When they drove out Dr. Sun Yat-sen last year, Chen's military commanders thought they were fighting their way to promotion. They expected to receive high positions. But they were sorely disappointed when Chen Chiung-ming informed them that he had decided to abolish all military posts and establish one instead which would be known as the *Tz Hui Kuan* (指揮官). By this arrangement all military commanders, whether old or new, high or low, were placed on equal footing. Each commander was placed directly under Chen himself.

The younger officers were doubtless pleased with the arrangement, but not so the elder ones, those who had really held power. Jealousy and discontentment reigned. The various commanders, loyal to Chen for a whole lifetime, disliked the idea and tried to dissuade Chen, without, however, meeting with success.

There is no doubt about the honesty of Chen Chiung-ming, our informant said; he has been trying to do what good he could to benefit his native province. Unlike practically every other militarist and politician in China, Chen Chiung-ming is a poor man and has no large female establishment. Gen. Wu Pei-fu is the only other military leader who can thus be described. Chen is a good man, of excellent character, but he is narrow-minded, using or having confidence only in his own relatives and fellow-natives.

The self government scheme introduced by Chen Chiung-ming has proved a complete failure, our informant continued. The time is too early for such. China is not ready for self-government. It was a mistake to allow the people to appoint their own magistrates. Their methods of squeeze were unrivalled. They even refused to remit the provincial revenues and taxes to Chen in Canton. The result was that Chen had no money, although ordinarily the total monthly revenue of the province is more than 40 millions.

THE DEPRECIATED PAPER.

Chen Chak-yu's appointment as Civil Governor by Chen Chiung-

ming, and the bank note situation, have had not a little to do with Chen's downfall. (Chen Chak-yu is an uncle of Mr. Chen Bing-him, compradore of Messrs. A. W. Burkill & Sons and Chairman of the Cantonese Merchants' Association of Shanghai). In announcing the appointment of Chen Chak-yu to the post of Civil Governor, Chen Chiung-ming said that it would prove both timely and suitable. Chen Chak-yu was a returned student, and a prominent merchant in Hongkong, from which port he could secure support, both moral and financial.

During the first few days of Chen Chak-yu's régime, the value of the provincial notes rose to about 80 cents. But they soon fell again when it was learned that no loans were forthcoming from Chen Chak-yu's friends in Hongkong. A loan with certain French and British bankers was negotiated, the first payment of which was to have been made some months ago. But payment of this also was postponed.

The soldiers, who were paid in notes, and the officers, who hoarded the notes for future profit, were growing restless. Then came another financial calamity, equally disastrous to Chen. Gen. Hsu Tsung-chih (Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Constitutional commander in Fukien) had sent his agents to Swatow with huge bundles of notes. These were placed on the market there, but the people refused to accept them. They were taken to Canton, where some were accepted, the hard cash being sent to Hsu. The people thought that Chen was responsible for this new lot of notes, and confidence in him dropped still further.

SUPPRESSION OF GAMBLING.

Attempts by Chen's subordinates to have gambling revived in Kuangtung were suppressed by their leader. At the annual review, Chen warned his men against the practice which, he said, was like poison and far worse than the deflated bank notes.

In his speech, Chen said: "I will die before allowing the practice to be revived while I am in charge of the province." He is also reported to have said: "Any commander of mine who secretly permits gambling or encourages it will be shot immediately. Should my order be disobeyed by any band of soldiers, I will move my local men against them and suppress them. . ."

This made his men angrier than ever.

Hearing that his position was menaced by the Constitutionalists and thinking that he would be attacked by Gen. Hsu Tsung-chih from the north, Chen concentrated his troops near the southern border of Fukien. But he was mistaken, for the attack was not coming from the north, but from Kuangsi on the west. In this vicinity Chen had posted numerous troops, never imagining that these men would not be true to him in the time of his trial. The men at this section were ready at any moment to break out in open rebellion, so dissatisfied

OPIUM FROM KUEICHOW

Profitable Smuggling Trade to Kiangsi and Hupeh

Peking, Jan. 30.

The following is the translation of a letter addressed to the International Anti-Opium Association:

We have been repeatedly informed by letters from our Kueichow people staying in Hunan and Hupeh that General Yuan Chu-ming of Kueichow smuggled a large quantity of opium weighing several thousand catties into the markets of Hupeh, Kiangsi, etc. Recently he bought 2,000 guns, 10,000,000 rounds of ammunition and 10 machine guns at Hanyang (Hupeh) at a cost of more than \$500,000. This expense was entirely met with money gained from opium dealings. It is a fact that upon mutually advantageous conditions agreeable to Hsiao Yao-nan, Tuchun of Hupeh, and Tsai Ch'eng-hsun, Tuchun of Kiangsi, and himself, opium is now permitted to be sold at Yachow and Hankow, where Chang Chi-an, Liu Shao-nan and Liu Fu-ch'ing are the appointed special opium sellers. Another large quantity has just arrived at Kunchiang under Li Yun-ch'i and Fu Chueh-min, the appointed special opium sellers.

As opium planting was the chief cause of the famine brought upon Kueichow in the past, so this widespread opium will hurt Hupeh and Kiangsi, etc. These corrupt authorities who permit opium to be sold openly in their districts, who receive bribes and who raise opium for money to buy arms to fight their own people are all inhuman and national destroyers and disturbers. Men of this kind ought to be put down. Our strength and power are very limited so we ask your sympathy and strong protest, for the sake of maintaining humanity and righteousness. If these could be secured not only we but our Kueichow people would be greatly favoured.

The letter has been forwarded to Sir F. Aglen, and the Customs Commissioner of Hankow.—Reuter.

Paris, Feb. 2.

The Council of the League of Nations has adopted the report of the Advisory Opium Committee and has authorized it to hold its meetings in public when it thinks fit.—Reuter.

The Chinese General Chamber of Commerce is offering a prize for the best essay on the subject of a reduction of the army. All merchants have been urged to paste on their doors during the Chinese New Year holidays slips calling for disbandment of the superfluous troops.

had they been for some months past. And so, when the combined Yunnanese and Kuangsi forces arrived, they either surrendered or joined the ranks of the enemy without actually fighting.

CONTROL OF TRAFFIC IN DRUGS

An Explanation of British and Other Foreign Powers' Efforts at Suppression

Peking, Feb. 1.

Reuter's Agency is authorized to make the following statement in regard to a letter addressed to the Press by the General Secretary of the International Anti-Opium Association, on January 26, in which the writer asserts that China is being fettered by foreign treaty rights in her "laudable efforts" to control the traffic and that in particular she is unable to fulfil her compact with the League of Nations in the matter of the issue of import certificates, owing to the existence of the foreign settlements and concessions:—

"As far as the British are concerned, legislation now in force, though it may not be identical with that prescribed by the League of Nations, does, in fact, restrict the import of narcotics by British subjects to medical and scientific uses only. The bond signed by the importer before his Consul, under Rule IV of the Customs tariff, besides giving full particulars as to quantity and value, guarantees that the articles imported will be employed for medical purposes only, either in private practice or in some specified hospital and the drugs cannot be imported until a special landing permit has been issued by the Chinese Maritime Customs. So it is not the British Consul, but the Chinese Government, through its representative, the Commissioner of Customs, that issues the import certificate and the writer is, therefore, entirely wrong in saying that 'the present system allows individual importation by Consular permits.' His inference that extraterritoriality prevents China from fulfilling her compact with the League of Nations is also entirely unjustified. On the contrary, it may be said without fear of contradiction that the presence of British and other foreign settlements and concessions in the principal ports of foreign entry into China is of material assistance in regulating the drug traffic and checking smuggling, as witness the effective manner in which the police of the international foreign settlement at Shanghai co-operate with the Chinese Customs in their constant fight with the opium smugglers.

"To say, at a time when opium is openly grown in all parts of the country, in many places under official compulsion, when it is being transported by the ton from one place to another in packages under official seals, when opium smuggling on an organized scale has assumed dimensions which have recently led the Inspector-General of Customs publicly to recommend legalization of the trade as the only

remedy for an intolerable situation, that China, in her laudable efforts to control the drug traffic, is 'up against foreign treaty rights,' is nothing less than a travesty of the truth.—Reuter.

A NEW MOTOR TRACTOR IN SHANSI

Chinese Engineer's Invention

From Our Own Correspondent.

Taiku, Sha., Jan. 27.

For some weeks the Chinese newspapers in Taiyuanfu have been printing accounts of a new type of motor engine soon to be put out. Yesterday one of these motor engines arrived here, leaving this morning for points on the road to the southwest. The new machine is simply a coal-burning tractor engine. It is the invention of the director of the provincial mint, who has the best engineering works in the province at his command. For constructing this tractor he is said to have received a reward of \$3,000 from Governor Yen. The director of the mint is a returned student from England.

The tractor reached here drawing a "train" consisting of a truck piled high with bales of cloth and one passenger carriage. Judging at the rate of speed with which it proceeded this morning it will do well to make five miles an hour, although the newspapers have reported that it is capable of 20 miles an hour. Even at five miles an hour it represents an advance in speed over the ordinary Peking cart, though hardly up to that of a ricksha.

On the 22nd and 23rd there was a fall of two or three inches of snow here, the second this winter. While coming too late to ward off the tremendous advance in the prices of foodstuffs, it will, at any rate, prevent the prices mounting higher for the present.

The shopkeepers are busy with their annual collections and settlements of accounts. Most of them report that the year's business has been, taking all the circumstances into consideration, fairly satisfactory.

Fire at Peking Y. M. C. A. Skating Rink

Peking, Feb. 2.

Fire occurred at midnight yesterday at the Y.M.C.A. skating rink off the Hatamen and completely destroyed the *peng* and contents, including the skates of members. Damage is estimated at several thousand dollars.

The sparks set fire to an adjoining *peng* store, which was completely gutted under the eyes of the frantic owner, who tried to throw himself into the flames. His loss, which is not covered by insurance, is \$7,000.—Reuter.

DROUGHT ON THE UPPER YANGTZE

Farmers Desperate for Rain

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ichang, Jan. 16.

Like many other parts of the country Ichang and district is suffering from the effects of prolonged drought. No rain to speak of has fallen since the month of August, 1922, and only those who live near the river have been able to do anything in the way of cultivating their fields. The ground is hard as iron and in many places no seed has been sown, and in those places where it has been sown, it is languishing for lack of moisture. So serious has the outlook become that fasts have been proclaimed, and no meat, fish, chicken or eggs can be obtained. Two days ago the clouds were heavy with moisture, a little of which fell on the thirsty ground, but appearances proved to be deceptive for the clouds rolled by and now the sky is as clear as before, and no signs of rain. Multitudes are daily thronging the temples praying for the much-needed showers, but so far the gods seem deaf to all entreaties. In conversation with a reliable native, your correspondent was informed that a company who had proceeded to Long Mang Tong (Dragon-fly temple) to offer prayers for rain, had returned with the answer that there would be no rain until the third month of the Chinese New Year.

UPPER YANGTZE NAVIGATION.

Steamers still continue to ply between here and Chungking, but as the river is very low, fears are entertained that the service will have to be suspended for a time. However, as long as conditions permit, steamers will continue in the hope that they will be able to demonstrate the practicability of overcoming the roaring torrents of the various rapids at low water. This winter traffic has not, however, been carried on without opposition from the junk guilds. While it is true that the Szechuanese junk guild came to a satisfactory understanding with the various steamer companies through the instrumentality of the River Inspector, yet the Hupeh guild would not come into line and now they are busy intimidating the pilots in the hope of holding up the various ships.

Taken all over we are living in peaceful times and it is to be hoped that under the rule of Nang Si-ling, who has come from Shasi to replace Sun Chuan-fang, conditions will continue to be tranquil.

We understand that Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co. have acquired an interest in Messrs. Arnhold Bros. Co., Ltd. Last autumn, our readers may remember, we announced that negotiations to this end were in progress but that nothing had been concluded. The arrangement is now made as stated above.

UPPER YANGTZE NOTES

Navigation Impossible from Low Water: The Dahvar Damaged: Bad Trade and New Year

Ichang, Jan. 30.

Winter navigation of the Upper Yangtze has now come to an end as the water has become so low and the rapids so bad that further attempts are considered too risky. The Dahvar sprang a leak on the way up to Chungking and had to be beached on January 21. She had to be hauled over the huge rapid at the Ch'ing Tan, and it is thought that the hauling has sprung one or two leaks. She was leaking badly and had to be beached. Her cargo was discharged and the captain sent down to Ichang for a pump which the River Inspector managed to get sent up to him.

The Tsesui is at Chungking and will not come down until the water rises a little. The Hsia-kiang and the Kiangnan are both here.

Not only are the steamers on the Upper Yangtze feeling the scarcity of water, but those on the middle section between here and Hankow are having a very hard time. The water is phenomenally low and most of the larger steamers have been withdrawn. The smaller class, which usually plies to Changsha, is now maintaining the service of all the companies between here and Hankow.

A LITTLE RAIN AT LAST.

The long drought has broken at last. Rain fell on January 20 and, the wind shifting to the north, it was followed by a fall of snow and the weather became bitterly cold. The rainfall was not considerable but has been sufficient to lay the dust and restore hopes of a harvest which had almost been despaired of.

Business is reported to be very bad and there is not much movement of cargo. It is feared that some of the large merchants in Chungking may not be able to stand the strain of settling accounts at the New Year. Even small business men are feeling the pinch. The price of food is so high that there is not much money to spare for other things.

General Wang, Commander-in-Chief of the Upper Yangtze Defences, recently held a memorial service for his brother with an imposing procession through the streets.

General Yang Sen has now left Ichang and is said to have gone overland to join his troops at Kienshih, but whether that means that he is ready to try conclusions with the Szechuanese has not been divulged. He has now been appointed Commander of the 16th Division of the Northern Army, and has issued a proclamation in his new rank.

Two disastrous fires occurred here on January 18 and 19 when two or three hundred families

were rendered homeless. Most of them were in a very pitiable condition, but help has been forthcoming from some of the philanthropic societies. The I-chang branch of the Chinese Red Cross Society also came to the rescue and raised a good sum of money—about \$427 was given by the foreign community.—Reuter.

LAWLESS STATE OF S.E. HUNAN

Shocking Prevalence of Brigandage and Oppression

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chenchow, Hu., Jan. 26.

One of the bandit strongholds in southeastern Hunan has been in the vicinity of Kiaho. Many people in this district have been robbed of all they possessed, the members of their families have been scattered, many have been brutally beaten and stabbed, while others have been carried to the hills and held for large ransom, and not a few have been done to death.

One of the peculiar developments of this lawlessness is that many of the local people, through fear, or poverty, or desire to have a share in the rich loot, have become identified with the ex-soldiers in terrorizing the country. This is the worst form of brigandage and the hardest to stamp out. Men mistrust their neighbours and the members of their own clans. Enemies find this a convenient time to reap revenge. There is danger at every step of the proverbial snake in the grass. While passing through a part of this district recently farmers left their tools in the fields and fled from us, load carriers and others when they saw us a long way off would leave the road and hide, evidently thinking that we might be connected with the bandits.

The local military official recently offered the bandit chiefs to reinstate them and their men in the regular army. The bandits agreed on condition that they be appointed to act as guardians of Ichang near the Kuangtung border. The military authorities agreed and since then the bandits have been collecting around Ichang. A few days ago the bandits evidently thought their time to strike had come and made a sudden attack upon the city. It was first reported that the mayor had been killed, but later reports indicate that he was able to escape by small boat across the border into Kuangtung. The two bandit leaders are relatives, being uncle and nephew. Before the looting had gone very far the two leaders quarrelled and the younger of the two was killed. This together with the report that regular soldiers from this city were on the way caused the robbers to beat a hasty retreat. Now the people of Kiaho district are fearful that the

outlaws will return to their former haunts in the mountains near by.

EATABLES COMMANDEERED.

The great stream of load carriers bearing the rich products of this province southward into Kuangtung has recently been arrested at this point, owing to the presence in upper Kuangtung of large numbers of soldiers, who rob the carriers of their loads. The soldiers seem to be greatly in need of supplies; and since the carriers on the down trip carry mostly chickens, ducks, eggs, hogs and other eatables, the soldiers have simply helped themselves.

Although famine conditions prevailed here last year owing to the lack of rain during the previous summer, it was thought that the fairly good crop which was harvested during the past summer would bring back ordinary prices for the staff of life; but the price of rice is higher now than it was last year at this time. This is largely due to the fact that Chenchow district does not grow sufficient rice for local consumption. Annually considerable quantities are brought up river in small boats. But since large quantities of Hunan rice have been bought by General Wu Pei-fu there is no rice coming up river. Already many people are beginning to feel the pinch of want, and local organizations are asking for famine relief funds so that they may prepare to meet the need of those who will be without food during the long months until the next harvest.

SOLDIERS' NEW YEAR DEMANDS.

With the Chinese New Year approaching the military authorities have made their usual demand for large sums of money. Chenchow was asked for \$10,000. It was intimated that unless a prompt payment was made the troops would have to be removed to other places; and in that case the military official said he would not be responsible for the actions of his soldiers, evidently intimating that they might turn into bandits. Since the city has not recovered from last year's famine conditions the officials have notified the military that they will not be able to raise more than \$3,000. No reply has been received which is thought to indicate that the military considers it sufficient or at least all that can be expected for the present.

In an investigation recently instituted at Tientsin, says the "N. C. Daily Mail" the Chamber of Commerce learned that more than 400 rug manufacturers are in the port, turning out an average length of 10,000 feet a day, with employment of 14,000 labourers. The annual average is in the neighbourhood of 3,000,000 feet, of which about 80 per cent. is exported abroad and the remaining 20 per cent. disposed of locally. Not all of these manufacturers have firms properly established, and many have no showrooms. They, however, take orders from their patrons, and execute them in accordance with the latter's designs and patterns.

BANDIT SUPPRESSION IN HONAN

Has it been Effectuated? Evidence
that Lawlessness Remains
as Bad as Ever

(Contributed.)

Last November, when several foreign captives were held as hostages by Honan bandits, General Chin Yun-ao was appointed Bandit Suppression Commander and put in charge of the work of securing the release of the captives. The release of all the foreign captives has since been effected. But now comes the report, published by a number of Chinese papers, that General Chin has notified High Inspecting Commissioner T'sao Kun that the bandits have been suppressed and that he therefore requests that his post as Bandit Suppression Commander be abolished. The same papers report that the request has been granted, and also intimate that General Chin and his officers have been rewarded for their services.

But what about it? Have the bandits actually been suppressed?

Some 4,000 of them have been "suppressed" by being received into the National Army, and have now, as good and loyal soldiers, been entrusted with the task of maintaining law and order and protecting the people in the very regions they a few weeks ago raided, and where as bandits they had their headquarters. And if we are to believe the reports we hear, they have not wholly laid aside their former practices, but are even now prone to levy on the already impoverished people and to help themselves to things they want.

The Shanghai "Shang Pao," which among others brings the report above referred to, also gives a little information about the brigand situation. It mentions several places in northern Honan where brigand bands are still carrying on their nefarious work. It also mentions the following districts as overrun by brigand gangs numbering each from 300 to 700 men, Juning, Singang, Tungpeh, Peiyang, Piuyan (Tanghsien), Sinyeh, and Tengchow.

This report is corroborated by information received from other sources. Thus the city of Tanghsien in southwestern Honan was recently threatened by a force of 1,000 brigands. As there were only 100 soldiers in the city, the citizens had to plead for terms and only escaped looting by the payment of \$40,000. A large village in the same district is reported to have incurred the wrath of the brigands. In consequence orders were given to shoot men, club the children, and crowd the women into a room and burn them to death. This order is reported to have been ruthlessly carried out. In another neighbouring district 120 villages are reported to have been burned and 230 people killed.

Another report comes from one of the largest cities in southeastern

Honan. According to this report, whilst the city itself is quiet, the country is full of brigands. They are said to operate at will, and apparently no military action against them is taken beyond the sending of a few troops to any place after the brigands have left. No effort is made to follow them up or to raid their dens, although these are said to be well known.

Still another report comes from a city in southwestern Honan. Our informant states that "conditions in this part of Honan are not as bad as further north. I want to state, however, that we do not dare to travel in the district on account of the bandit activities. People are held up and robbed not far from the city, even in broad daylight."

A Kaifeng paper of January 28 reports that near Taikanghsien some time ago bandits carried off a man by the name of Chang Yufeng and demanded a ransom of \$200. This sum not being forthcoming, the man was brutally cut across the face and then carried to his house, where a few days later he died as a result of his wounds.

Such are the conditions. And yet the officials concerned are asking rewards from the Government on the ground that the bandits have been suppressed and normal conditions restored.

VLADIVOSTOK'S BID FOR TRADE

Moscow Planning to Repair Railways: Encouragements to Foreign Business

Vladivostok, Jan. 29.

Moscow is making active preparations for the repair of railways. The suggestion of the Vladivostok authorities to repair a portion of the Bikin bridge with wood has been rejected and Moscow is sending two engineers to supervise reconstruction, insisting that a permanent structure must be built. Moscow has also approved plans for the reconstruction of the enormous bridge across the Amur River near Habarovsk. Labour will be supplied by army engineer corps. Four trains of travelling workshops have been sent up the Amur Railway to be used for repairs of the permanent way.

A new shaft, 57 sagues deep, is being opened in the Souchan coal mines.

It is reported that the Okhotsk goldfields are falling into American hands and that 20 American prospectors have already arrived. A British prospector is also reported to be making investigations there, while Herr Stinnes, the German capitalist, is negotiating with the Russian authorities to acquire the Kissilevsky goldfields at Udil-Limur-sky, about 70 versts from Habarovsk.

INVITATIONS TO FOREIGNERS.

The Russian authorities are advertising the opening to foreign enterprise of the Russian Far East, emphasizing the enormous natural

wealth of the far north of eastern Siberia. It is stated that, far from obstructing the influx of foreign mining and trading concerns, the Russian authorities are prepared to protect their interests. Armed patrol boats will be sent north to prevent illegal trading and protect the fisheries. They announce that the Commander Islands, Shantar Islands, Ayan, Nelkama, Yakutsk and the surrounding districts are now open for foreign enterprise. Trading is done by barter with the aborigines and therefore an expedition must take large quantities of suitable goods. The round trip would take from eight to 16 months. The Russian authorities, however, warn foreigners desirous of investigating the matter to approach the authorities in Vladivostok direct.

The Far Eastern Bank will open in Vladivostok on February 1. It will establish relations with foreign banks in all ports trading with Vladivostok.

According to a new law all gambling, lotto or ordinary card games are forbidden in societies and clubs of a non-commercial character.

CO-OPERATIVE TRADING.

Individual co-operative organizations of a commercial character have been prohibited. Co-operative societies must simply provide their members with goods at cost price. The same law permits the formation of shareholding companies on a purely commercial basis but they must not have any political or social character.

A collegiate of defending advocates has been formed to replace the old system.

A commission from the Commissariat of Labour and Defence has arrived from Moscow. The sanction of this commission must be obtained for all concessions.

A plenipotentiary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been appointed to Vladivostok but his name is not yet known.

The Volunteer Fleet intends shortly to purchase steamers to replace those taken by Admiral Stark.

CERTAIN IMPORTS PROHIBITED.

A law has been passed prohibiting the import of the following:—

Cast-iron; iron; steel (except special kinds such as tool-steel or manufactured steel articles); leather (except Mongolian leather or leather for military purposes); asbestos; magnesium; Glauber salts; talc; phosphates; quick-lime; precious stones; manganese ore; coal; alcohol; beer; wine; mead; spirits; flour; potato flour; mushrooms; fruit; tobacco; milk products (except Mongolian butter); fish; carbonate and bi-carbonate of soda; caustic; chlorine; lime; fertilisers; resin; tar; matches; varnish; paints; candles; sheet glass; earthenware; cement; building materials, timber (except cork); textile raw materials (except cotton); fibrous raw materials; all luxuries; inks (except copying and fountain pen ink).—Reuter.

* Reference to the above letter appears in Notes and Comments, —Ed.

SOVIET'S NEW POLICY IN FAR EAST

Expectations of Recognition by
Japan and America: Making
a Good Impression

From a Correspondent.

Harbin, Jan. 30.

With Consul Shimada here practically every day since the Changchun conference went up in smoke, working diligently on plans for a new parley with Russia, and with the other indications that are observable, it need occasion no surprise if Japan took the lead in the recognition of Soviet land. Letters from prominent Japanese to business friends here, speaking of an understanding with Russia as a certainty in the near future, and trying to get in on the ground floor with concessions in Siberia, are staws showing how the wind is blowing in commercial circles in Tokio, Osaka and Kobe.

Joffe has been invited and has accepted an invitation to go to a Japanese health resort, and it has been tacitly agreed that he is to be treated with the dignity befitting his rank and position. He is not to be rated with under statesmen as he was at Changchun, one of the minor flames that consumed that meeting, but will receive the consideration that befits the diplomatic representative of a nation that regards him as one of its leading lights in matters pertaining to relations between countries. He is looked upon by Moscow as the first juriconsult in the Soviet ranks, having been entrusted with drawing the treaties with the several republics that make up that country.

HOPES OF AMERICA.

Press reports from the United States credit every member of the Harding cabinet with favouring the recognition of Soviet Russia, with the exception of the Secretary of State, Mr. Hughes, and while the delay in the conference between China and Russia may be attributable to the disordered condition of governmental affairs in Peking, there are whisperings in Red circles about something sensational that will surely happen in the near future. The urgent pressure for the straightening out of the Chinese Eastern railroad imbroglio, has been allowed to drop, and there has been nothing said recently concerning the White Guard refugees who are moving toward Harbin.

The scare that the Red troops will take Harbin persists, but that can be laid at the door of propaganda. With the expectation of recognition by the United States, possibly Japan, and with hopes growing out of the widening chasm between France and England, local Reds point to the suicidal result of invasion of China and the taking over of the Chinese Eastern railroad, especially since that road is still under strict

international surveillance, even, if the *de jure* control thereof has been surrendered. The all Russian Amur line is being put in better condition, and freight and passengers from Siberia to the port of Vladivostok are moving that way.

It is even possible that an agreement may be worked out under which the conduct of the Chinese Eastern railroad will be a Sino-Soviet affair. There are a number of members of the executive body who would have to give up their places under such an arrangement but the recent conciliatory attitude of the Reds in offering amnesty to White Guard elements, and the employment of a number of the former officials in positions of responsibility, are classed as indications of a change of heart and reason in the controlling forces.

VLADIVOSTOK WINDOW-DRESSING.

A British subject who has lived in Vladivostok many years visited Harbin last week. He expressed surprise over the change of spirit in official circles. In his business there had arisen misunderstandings, but there had been no trouble in securing adjustments and while money and employment are scarce, he looks forward to a rapid increase in both. The Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, the Yokohama Specie and the Bank of Chosen are functioning normally, according to this informant. His family remains in Vladivostok, where he says they are perfectly safe. The tax has been taken off timber exports, the ice breakers are keeping the harbour open, and there promises to be brisk activity in the movement of aspen logs for match manufacturers and an upward move in soya bean shipments.

Burden of China's Armies

Peking, Feb. 4.

President Li Yuan-hung replying to Dr. Sun Yat-sen by telegram states that he agrees to the disbandment proposals but military leaders are incessantly preparing for war and recruiting fresh troops and not attending to the orders of the Central Government and the wishes of the people. The country's difficulties can entirely be attributed to fighting between the various parties. The Government's money is swallowed up in paying the military and is not able to meet its own expenses. President Li Yuan-hung expresses hopes that in future everyone will further peaceful unification and disbandment.

A Mandate has been issued appointing Mr. Hsu Shih-ying, Chief of the Aviation Department in Peking, and Mr. Luan Chung-chih Civil Governor of Anhui instead of Mr. Hsu Shih-ying.—Reuter.

PEKING, Feb. 7.—Gen. Chang Hsi-yuan, the Tutung of Chahar, arrived here yesterday. The Premier has invited him and the Foreign Vice-Minister to the Cabinet Office to discuss the Coltman case.—Reuter.

REFUGEE PROBLEMS IN HARBIN

An Appalling List of Suicides:
Worse to Come if C.E.R.
is Occupied

From Our Own Correspondent.

Harbin, Jan. 15.

The number of suicides among Russians taking place daily in Harbin is really appalling. Strychnine, opium, cocaine, or acetic acid are employed in the majority of cases, though revolvers are sometimes used, especially in the case of former officers. During the past week, at least a score of persons have taken their own lives, due to mental depression in most instances, almost all being particularly sad cases. In one instance, an elderly apothecary, working for a mere pittance, swallowed strychnine on learning that several members of his family had died from hunger whilst others had written him for pecuniary help, which he was unable to give. A young man, a former officer, employed as a railway militiaman, and earning \$30 a month, shot himself because he was neither able to go back to Russia nor send any assistance to his parents there.

It must not be imagined that there are no charitable organizations in Harbin, for they are so numerous that it is impossible to give a list and all are doing very good work. The trouble is that there are thousands who require assistance, for they are unable to get work of any sort. Trade and commerce are stagnant, and even large firms, both wholesale and retail, are living from hand to mouth. Retrenchment is taking place everywhere, including the Chinese Eastern Railway, which has in the past given employment to so many. Residents in the Far East have gained some experience of the deluge created by Russian refugees from Vladivostok, but they can have no conception of what is in store for them if the alarm is sounded that the Reds are about to occupy the C.E.R. area. It is impossible to convince a great number of Russians that it is better for them to stay where they are and that starvation stares them in the face if they move further eastward. One always gets the same reply, "Oh, you are a foreigner and, not being a Russian, the Commissars will leave you alone."

I am assured by Russians who know and who have no sympathy with Bolshevism, that a goodly percentage of those who evacuated Vladivostok had absolutely no real reasons for doing so, for they had neither taken part in any active campaign against the Reds nor had they meddled with politics. They simply were led by others and by fairy tales that they could do better elsewhere. They are generally a desirable lot of people, willing to work out their own salvation and their great wish is to emigrate.

NOTES FROM HARBIN

High Priced Visas: Will Japan Recognize Moscow? Suicides, Crime and Bad Business

From a Correspondent.

Harbin, Feb. 1.

Russia has followed the lead of the United States in one capitalistic method. In fact she has gone the latter country one better, for instead of charging the equivalent of 10 American dollars for visaing the passport of a foreigner, she collects what is equal to 11. In the days of the Far Eastern Republic, one lady traveller *en route* to Chita asked the American Consulate here to remonstrate with the passport office of that country over having had the temerity to charge her what amounted to 10 Yankee dollars for stamping her passport, but as the representative of the country that started the style in high-priced visas, he declined to act. The reason given for advancing the price of visas, is that a 10 per cent. tax has been levied on all official documents, the money raised therefrom to go to the Russian Red Cross.

Reports from sections of the United States that labour is plentiful, coupled with the conviction that there is at least no immediate prospect for the overthrow of the Bolsheviks, has started a heavy movement of Russians to that country. The applications on passport days run to an average to 200. There were 5,000 vacancies in the quota of Russians, according to the most recent advices, while the three per cent. allowable to the nationalities has been used up in the instance of Poland and several other European countries. Working in conjunction with a students bureau, the American Y. M. C. A. sent a number of groups of young men and women to the United States last year, but when for the reason herein given, applications were received from "students" who had not seen the inside of a school of any kind for many years, the Y. M. C. A. withdrew from the movement.

Some of the students who are in attendance at American Universities, and who are working their way through, wrote to friends here, that, in the fruit-picking season, they had received as much as seven dollars a day for picking apples. The receipt of these letters by the Russians put them in the same position as an Irishman who boasted that he had the best job of his life, getting paid for tearing down a Protestant church, as it was stated by more than one of the writers that there were no objections to eating all the fruit wanted.

Japanese match manufacturers are buying aspen logs at Vladivostok, dealing with the Soviet monopoly, which puts the timber aboard ship for 60 kopecks, gold value, per cubic foot. About 800,000 cubic feet have been contracted for, with negotiations

pending for an additional half million cubic feet. The purchaser advances 5 per cent. when the contract is made, pays from 50 to 75 per cent. when the logs arrive in Vladivostok, and the balance when they are put aboard ship. There is special activity in the handling of timber just now, as the cutting is always done while the ground is frozen, this enabling the sledding of the logs out of the forests over the ice. One American syndicate has its representative on the ground, looking for an extensive timber concession, and it is reported that Japanese firms have made payments on grants of magnitude.

The Japanese Minister to Poland, Mr. Kawakami, recently passed through this city *en route* to Tokio, having been the first citizen of his country to make the trip overland from Moscow in several years. He reported the train service excellent. It is said that he brings with him the conviction that Japan should be the first country to extend recognition to Soviet Russia, and that he will urge that course on his Government.

Most cities have tragedies, some many and others few, but this place of last resort for such a heavy refugee population maintains an unenviable reputation as the leading suicide centre on the Asiatic mainland. The chronicles of one day last week as recorded in the annals of the police were the suicide of a recent arrival, a girl who through the force of hunger was driven into a Chinese brothel, a prescription clerk who had been without work for more than a year and took the easiest way out, another girl who found life too difficult and shot herself, and in this instance a Chinese opium smoker who, steeped in the fumes, fell into the fire and was burned to death. Four in one day, and that not the record by any means. On the same day there were four daylight robberies, and several citizens told of receiving demands for money, with terrible deaths as their portion in the event of failure to deliver.

Statistics issued by the Board of Trade of this city show that there were 1500 business failures in 1922 in the Russian and Chinese municipalities. Politics and the strife between the two Russian factions, the exploitation of the Chinese Eastern Railway, the blight of the Hunghutzes on the native business along the line and the inability of the country to absorb the heavy stocks of merchandise that accumulated during the stormy period through which the country passed since 1917, are among the causes that have contributed to the poor commercial showing made by this really important trading centre. While conditions at Vladivostok are looking up, they are steadily getting no better in Harbin, and experts say that until the controversy over the future of the Chinese Eastern Railway is settled, little improvement can be expected.

THE SUI-AN PIRACY

Officers Held Negligent in their Unreadiness for Defence: Real Blame Outside Colony

Hongkong, Feb. 8.

The report of the Sui-An Piracy Commission has been laid on the table in the Legislative Council. The commissioners make no complaint with regard to the conduct of the Master and the other certificated officers of the ship during the attack, whilst the behaviour of the ship's guards appears excellent.

The commissioners found the Captain negligent in having omitted to hold himself and his certificated officers and the guards in readiness for the defence of the ship, in accordance with the piracy regulations. They found the Chief Officer negligent in having omitted to carry arms and in not keeping the doors of the engine and boiler rooms locked. The same applies to the Second Engineer.

The commissioners' conclusion is that, whatever measures are adopted in the Colony to prevent piracy, their success will be only partial until public order is firmly established in the neighbouring Chinese territories and that the root of the evil is outside the waters of the Colony.—Reuter.

Strike on Peking-Hankow Railway

Peking, Feb. 4.

Owing to Gen. Chin Yun-ao dissolving the Railwaymen's Union headquarters at Chengchow, the railwaymen of the Peking-Hankow Railway struck this morning and no trains have been running on the line from Peking to the south. The Government has wired to Gen. Chin Yun-ao ordering him not to interfere with the workmen's headquarters, hence it is expected that the strike will be speedily over.—Reuter.

Hankow, Feb. 5.

Owing to the strike on the Peking-Hankow Railway, no trains are running. The railway is stated to be anti-military, and it is understood that an attempt has been made to call a general strike to-morrow.—Reuter.

Peking, Feb. 7.

The strike situation has improved. It is semi-officially reported that the workmen of the northern section have decided to return to duty pending a settlement.

The Minister of Communications has despatched three additional pacificators to the West.—Reuter.

ENCOUNTER WITH SOLDIERS.

Hankow, Feb. 8.

It appears that this afternoon the military ordered the strikers to resume work at Kilometre 10. The men refused, when the military fired, killing 37 and wounding many others.

The soldiers concerned in the shooting have now returned to Wuchang.

The British Volunteers have been called out as a precautionary measure.—Reuter.

CHINA HER OWN ENEMY

Some Difficult Explanations

From Our Own Correspondent.

London, Dec. 22.

This week the papers published the appointment of Gen. Chang Shao-tseng as Prime Minister of China. These politicians of China come and go with such amazing rapidity that we are unable to follow their careers, but we gather that the new prime Minister is a man of considerable ambition and perhaps not too great scrupulousness. We understand, too, that his daughter is engaged to be married to the nephew of Gen. Wu Pei-fu, now his adopted son. In the circumstances, no one expects the present Ministry to last very long, and this in any case will be unfortunate, because the frequent political changes at Peking have been productive recently of a very bad impression.

The main trouble with which the friends of China at the present time are faced is that of trying to explain away many of the innumerable objectionable aspects of her affairs. One is finance, the position in respect to which has been very much damaged recently by the failure to meet the interest on the Marconi and Vickers' Bonds. The interest on the Hukuang Coupons was just met in time, as, 24 hours before the time to pay, it had not been received in London by the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, but it came along just at the right moment, although a rumour, very damaging as it proved, had gone round the Stock Exchange indicating failure. The Chinese Legation naturally puts the best face on matters, but the task is not easy. Indeed, Mr. Chu Chao-hsin, the Chinese Chargé d'Affaires, this week issued to all the chief London papers the following statement, which may interest China:—

"Within the last few days there has been yet another financial rumour with regard to China, and in view of the temporary reaction on Chinese credit on the Stock Exchange, a few words of criticism may be permissible. This rumour, which suggested that the interest on the Hukuang Loan would not be paid on Friday last, occasioned many inquiries at the Legation in Portland Place, but a refutation was speedily forthcoming, as the result of a telegraphic inquiry to Peking, since the immediate reply announced that the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, who act as agents of the Chinese Government, had received all the necessary funds advanced for the purpose from the surplus of the Salt Tax. By this time the payments have been duly made.

"Students of Chinese finance and economics doubtless are aware of the absolute reliability of this investment, on which default is unimaginable. It is secured, not only on the Hukuang Railway Line itself, but also on the Hupeh and Hunan *likin*, on the Hupeh and Hunan salt revenue allocations, and on the Hupeh imported rice duty. In addition, the Chinese Government assumes responsibility, failing adequate revenue from

the sources indicated, for the payment in full of interest and repayment of principal. As a matter of fact, the drawings of the Bonds of this Loan are being duly carried out; the first took place in December, 1921, and the second quite recently on the 5th instant. If they need it, I can give an assurance to the fortunate holders of the numbers drawn that full payment of the Bonds will be made through the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank at the due date. This is a railway scheme of the utmost importance to China, as the line, when finished, will link up Canton and Hankow. It has been, and is being, constructed in three sections. The most southerly from Canton north to Shiuchow, and the most northerly from Hankow (Wuchang) south to Chuchow, have both been finished and are in working order. The intervening section between Chuchow and Shiuchow is not yet taken in hand, though it has been mostly surveyed. When finished, the line should be the most profitable in China proper. It will establish communication between Peking and Canton. It will take the traffic of three provinces—Kuangtung, Hunan and Kiangsi. Already, in the last-named province, there is actually working a branch line from Chuchow to Pinghsiang. The stretch of country is most densely populated, and its natural wealth very great.

"But for the War, the line would have been finished long since. When the War broke out in 1914, the work, which had been started as a result of the Loan in 1911, was necessarily abruptly stopped, and it has hitherto not been resumed, save on the southern section, now finished. Now shortly, however, the 200 miles of line still to be constructed will be taken in hand. When completed, the whole railway will, by reason of its trunk-character, have exactly the same importance to China, though on a vastly larger scale, as the London & North Western or the Midland Railway has to this country. Recent events have, too, impressed on the Peking Government the vital need of placing the completion of this line in the very forefront of all railway constructional work. Facts such as these should make the holders of Hukuang Bonds realize that their investment is one which, from every point of view, makes a very special appeal to the Chinese Government."

On the other hand, it is only fair to point out that some of the papers, headed by the "Financial Times" are asserting that the existence of the Consortium stands in the way of China remodelling her finance or obtaining foreign money to do so. So much for finance.

CHRONIC DISINTEGRATION.

As regards the internal political situation in China, there is general regret that it improves so slowly, though you will not meet anyone who does not believe that Japanese activities are at the back of much of the disintegrating movement which now seems to be chronic. Most people consider that Japan does not want a united China, and that her efforts are steadily used to prevent this ever being brought about. It is, however, surprising that the Chinese do not appreciate the weakening effect which internal discord produces, and realize that, if their country were united, it would play a much more noteworthy part in world affairs.

Trade is distinctly better, and the latest reports show that the China stocks of Lancashire goods are not large, but there always

seems to be a good deal of uncertainty as to whether the favourable trade outlook will continue, and there never can be absolute confidence until there is a certain amount of relative tranquillity in China. There are always plenty of people ready to damage trading relations by emphasizing aspects of Chinese habits and customs, largely as a result of the unfortunate tendency of Chinese over here to indulge in opium. There are always denunciations of the so-called Asiatic Peril. Some of the papers of a less reputable kind are reviving the Yellow Peril scare, and it is a little unfortunate that the Chinese diplomatic representatives seem to have no control over their subjects who engage in these very dubious practices. They do not apparently object to the culprits being sent home when detected and punished, but they hardly ever seem to have a firm hand on their notorious tendencies. If the Legation were a good deal firmer, I think that the status of the Chinese in this country would be very much improved. This is, though, not the fault of the Legation.

Reviewing, in short, the events of the past year, one cannot say they are too encouraging. But for the notorious sympathy of the majority of the British people, China would not stand very high in British estimation, and this is very largely due to her own defects. Never was there a country which so greatly muddled its own chances alike in the domain of world politics, finance and commerce.

JAPANESE IN MANCHURIA

Strong Objection to Coming Withdrawal of Troops

Tokio, Jan. 26.

The second mass meeting of the Japanese residents in Manchuria, which was held yesterday afternoon at Mukden, to protest against the proposed withdrawal of the Manchuria Garrison passed the following resolution:—

"The withdrawal of the Japanese Garrison in Manchuria is calculated to jeopardize the lives and property of the Japanese residents in the Province, and to give a serious setback to their future economic expansion in the locality.

"The Association of Japanese Residents has already appealed to the Government authorities, which, however, have disregarded the appeal and intend to carry out the evacuation in April next.

"The Japanese residents accordingly have assembled to confirm their previous resolution, and hereby appoint an executive committee for a further appeal to the authorities as well as to the general public at Home."

The committee is expected to arrive in Tokio in the course of next month for a personal appeal to the Government and Diet members.—Reuter.

OBITUARY

Prince Sadanaru Fushimi

Tokio, Feb. 4.

Prince Sadanaru Fushimi died to-day. The official announcement of the death of His Imperial Highness, following an attack of apoplexy, was issued after the arrival of the escort at his residence in Tokio from his country residence at Choshi.

The date of the State funeral, with the period of mourning, will be given out later.

Prince Fushimi was head of the House of Fushimi and the 21st of the line. He was born on April 28, 1858.

His Imperial Highness took part in the Japan-China War as a Brigade Commander, commanded the First Army Division at the battle of Nanshan (May 26, 1904) and was promoted full General the next month. He was a member of the Supreme Council of War in 1905 and of the Imperial Mission to the Court of St. James in 1907 and was Honorary President of the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition, 1910.

Prince Fushimi attended the grand funeral ceremony in China in 1909 and the funeral of the late King Edward VII. He was Grand Master of the Imperial Funeral (April 14, 1912) and Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal in 1912. Prince Fushimi was granted the title of Marshal in 1915.—Reuter.

Feb. 5.

The date of the State funeral of Prince Sadanaru Fushimi has not been formally decided. It will probably take place on February 14. The period of Court mourning will be five days while all amusements will be stopped to-day and also on the day of the funeral.

The private funeral of General Count Kuroki will take place on February 9.—Reuter.

General Kuroki

Tokio, Feb. 4.

The death is announced to-day of Gen. Kuroki, who had been indisposed since last month.

Gen. Kuroki, who was born in 1844, saw much service during his career. Struggles in Japan occupied the early part of his service in the army. By 1893 he was a Major-General, and in that capacity during the Sino-Japanese War rendered distinguished service at Weihaiwei under Marshal (then Gen.) Oyama. For this service he was created Baron, while he was promoted General in 1903. On the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese War he was appointed commander of the 1st Army, which consisted of three divisions of the Imperial Guards, and which was landed at Chingnanpo. He fought the battles of the Yalu, Motienling, Hsuyen, Yushulintzu, Yantzuiling, Liaoyang, Shaho and Mukden. At the battle of Liaoyang he broke camp, and

leaving behind him only a rear guard, advanced northwards, causing the retreat of Gen. Keller. Gen. Kuroki's casualties amounted to about 300 killed and wounded, while Gen. Keller put his losses at over 1,000. In the battle of Shaho, Kuronatin's plan was to attack the right wing of Kuroki's army and roll it back upon Liaoyang, while the Japanese left and centre were held in front; then to shut up Oyama and his troops in Liaoyang, much as Sir George White was shut up in Ladysmith, while a rapid march southwards would be made to the relief of Port Arthur. In pursuance of this plan Rennenkampf fiercely attacked Gen. Kuroki's extreme right at Pensilu, while a force of Cossacks, some 3,000 strong, crossed the Taitse River and severed the General's communications in the rear. Kuroki's situation seemed critical for the moment; but reinforcements were able to reach him while a force of cavalry detached to operate against the Cossacks south of the Taitse River succeeded in driving them off and in restoring the interrupted communications. In the battle of Mukden, acting on the right flank, his army attacked the left wing of the enemy's forces under Rennenkampf at Tsinkhetchen; the Russians were rolled up by Gen. Kuroki, who thus had no inconsiderable share in the victory over the Russian Army. After the War, Gen. Kuroki was appointed Member of the Supreme Military Council, raised to the rank of Count and invested with the 1st Class Order of the Paulownia and the 1st Class Order of the Golden Kite.—Eastern News Agency.

Princess Arisugawa

Tokio, Feb. 7.

The death is announced to-day from pneumonia of the Dowager Princess Tadako Arisugawa, widow of Prince Taruhito, at the age of 67.—Reuter.

Mrs. Sheldon Ridge

Peking, Feb. 3.

Mrs. Sheldon Ridge died here this morning. A funeral service will be held in the Peking Union Medical College Auditorium tomorrow.—Reuter.

Mr. Leo Longinotto

The death has occurred at Hongkong of Mr. Leo Longinotto, a well-known solicitor. The late Mr. Longinotto, who was about 45 years of age, came to Hongkong in August, 1917, as Assistant Crown Solicitor, but after serving in this capacity for about 12 months, he resigned and left the Colony. On the death of Mr. J. H. Gardiner, solicitor, he returned and took over that gentleman's practice. Mr. Longinotto had made a special study, in private life, of poultry farming at which he was considered an expert. His sudden death will be regretted by many friends.

RUSSIANS IN KIRIN

Chinese Benevolent Treatment of the Refugees

From a Correspondent.

Harbin, Jan. 30.

Returning from a visit to Kirin a foreigner reports that there are between 2,500 and 3,000 Russian refugees in that Chinese city. The China Chapter of the American Red Cross has arranged some hospital facilities for these wanderers, many of whom are sick. They are being fed by the Chinese, who give them plenty of good bread. They have been given Chinese barracks to live in, all of the Chinese hotels have been requisitioned for their use, and while they have to sleep on mud kang, these are all that Kirin affords. There were only six foreigners in Kirin when the Russians arrived, and there were no foreign houses available for their occupancy.

The investigator was loud in his praises of the treatment being given to the refugees by the Chinese. It is thought however, that the Russian will not remain long in Kirin. Some of the hospital cases have made their way into Harbin. One of the Morkuloffs, who has been helping in the movement of his fleeing compatriots, is now here, and General Dietrichs, if not already in Harbin, is expected daily. It is said that most of the horses that were taken on the flight from Vladivostok, have been disposed of; their owners having exchanged them for food and cart transportation. It is anticipated that the American Red Cross will arrange for the further care of these people upon their arrival in Harbin.

PEKING EDITOR ARRESTED

Brother Journalists' Protest at Illegality of the Action

Peking, Feb. 7.

The police on February 3 arrested Mr. Lin Chao-yang, the editor of the Asiatic News Agency, on the written request, is alleged, of the Cabinet Secretary, Mr. Lu Kun.

Fifty journalists called on the Premier yesterday and protested against the arrest, alleging that no regular warrant was issued for it.

The Premier promised to refer the matter to the judicial courts.

The journalists withdrew unsatisfied and intend again to visit the Premier to-day.—Reuter.

Mongolian Bandits' Raid

Peking, Feb. 7.

A belated report from Kailohsien, Mongolia, states that 2,000 bandits attacked and looted the town, burned part of it and stole the prefectural seals. The prison was opened. The bandits have retired to the north.—Reuter.

BUDDHISM'S ENTRY INTO POLITICS

Japanese Priests' Opposition to Representation at the Vatican

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, Jan. 25.

The objections of Japanese Buddhists towards the proposal of the authorities to exchange diplomatic representatives with the Vatican has brought about a seemingly religious controversy and, for Japan, the unusual development of priests practically threatening the Government. It is alleged the proposal of the Government to send a diplomatic envoy to the Vatican would rob the Imperial Family of Japan of power and open the country to Catholicism. The Chief Abbot of one of the most famous of Japan's Buddhist temples, at Kioto, has come specially to Tokio to induce the authorities not to undertake the measure proposed. He declares that, in case the authorities do not heed him, he will call on the heads of every Buddhist sect and temple in the country, and, through them, on all professing the Buddhist faith, to join in a nation-wide protest. Already, the matter is assuming the proportions of a religious controversy that is literally rocking the country with excitement.

The Chief Abbot, in a statement issued broadcast, has declared that Buddhist influence is strong enough to prevent the appointment of an envoy from Japan to the Holy See and warns every member of Parliament that, should they give the seal of approval to the Government's project when the matter is brought up in the Diet for approving the appropriation of ¥ 114,000 to maintain a Japanese representative in the Papal Court, every vestige of Buddhist influence through the length and breadth of the country will be mobilized to prevent the re-election of such members. In a special message to press men, the Chief Abbot said, "Do not be surprised if there is a nationwide revolt of Buddhists should the Government ride roughshod over us in regard to this matter."

The agitation against the sending of an envoy from Japan to the Holy See was started by about 3,000 Buddhist priests some weeks ago, and after a mass meeting, they issued a manifesto stating:—

1.—To recognize the religious organization of the Pope, to which the exchange of diplomatic representatives is tantamount, is to ignore the religious system of Japan;

2.—Through recognition of the Roman Catholic Church, which the exchange of representatives means, the Government, however unintentionally, will be a party in laying pressure indirectly on other faiths;

3.—Countries represented at the Vatican are all Catholic countries,

and, as Japan is a non-Catholic country, there is no reason whatever why a representative from this country should be stationed at the Holy See and thus official recognition be extended to the Pope.

A FOREIGN OFFICE EXPLANATION.

The Foreign Office has issued a long explanation as against the stand taken by the Buddhist priests, which, besides detailing the reasons that led the authorities to decide on exchanging envoys with the Vatican, also gently administers a rebuke that religionists should not meddle in delicate international matters or assume a minatory attitude towards the established Government. The main object of the authorities in seeking to have a good understanding with the Vatican has undoubtedly been the new trend of Japan towards world affairs. Not less compelling was the consideration that, for some time to come, at least, Japanese emigrants would have to seek homes and fortunes across the seas in South America. Most of these Latin republics contain a preponderatingly large Catholic population, and are willing to admit Japanese emigrants. The authorities, consequently, came to the conclusion that the establishment of direct relations with the Holy See would be a wise and timely step to take at this time.

In a long communication to the press, the Foreign Office emphasizes the fact that, since the termination of the last war, the number of nations who have exchanged diplomatic representatives with the Vatican have increased considerably, and that these representatives are not limited to lands which nationally profess the Roman Catholic faith. If an envoy from the Holy See is stationed in Tokio, as will undoubtedly be the case when a Japanese envoy is sent there, he will be received here as a diplomat and accorded the same privileges and immunities accorded to diplomats, according to the Foreign Office, but will not be permitted to engage in religious propaganda in this country, such propaganda being left to the missionaries. The Foreign Office declaration winds up by pooh-poohing the fears of the Buddhists that Japan will become Catholic to such an extent as to undermine the present position of the Buddhist hierarchy.

PEOPLE BACKING THE PRIESTS.

The press is discreet about the matter and guarded comments are made, but, with the exception of one or two papers which roundly denounce the proposal to place a Japanese diplomat at the Vatican, or openly scoff at the fears of those who do not want such action taken, the rest show signs of uneasiness at the Government's suggestion as though unable to make up their minds on which side definitely to throw their weight. The people in general seem to be with the objecting priests. Behind the evident unpalatableness of the average Japanese towards his country having

close relations with the Papal Court can be discerned a vague fear that such action will, in some way, tend to shake the hold Buddhism and Shintoism have on the land—not that the average Japanese cares much about religion, but an absurd fear seems to exist that this will lead to a gradual weakening of the state.

The probabilities are that the Government will not introduce the Bill appropriating money for the establishment of a Japanese Legation at the Holy See into the present session of the Diet. If the authorities do, the measures will in all probability be thrown out, for the threat uttered by the Chief Abbot that he and all the Buddhist priests of the land will concentrate every bit of Buddhist influence in the country to ensure that those voting for the measure never again succeed in sitting in the House is too serious lightly to be cast aside.

FLUCTUATING FORTUNES IN THE SOUTH

From Our Own Correspondent.

Pakhoi, Jan. 24.

The last few days have been a see-saw between the Chen and Sun factions. Chen troops inside the city of Lienchow were invested for 12 days, and the siege was raised by the arrival of troops from Hoihow. These men occupied the district until yesterday. On the 22nd, a short engagement took place and there was much firing, but few killed and wounded. A French gunboat from Haiphong was here for one day.

For the moment we are under the Sun régime, represented by our old friend, Wong Ming-tong.

An employee in the collecting office of the Salt Administration was found in his office with his throat cut, and other marks of violence. He died the following day, and is supposed to have given the names of his murderers, though up to the present no one has been arrested. It is stated that the young man complained of not feeling well the day before the attack was made on him, and this is said to be due to poison administered by some person.

THE case against Mr. R. M. Andrews, a prominent business man of Tokio and a resident of long standing, has now come to an end. Mr. Andrews was originally arrested upon a charge of espionage, the allegation being that he had taken photographs of fortified places. This charge was dropped after the lapse of several weeks, and Mr. Andrews has now been tried and convicted upon a charge of running a motor boat in Tokio Bay last August. Mr. Andrews was owner and captain of the boat, and it was finally alleged that he had violated the law relating to ship's officers and men and the regulation for the examination of foreign vessels. He has been fined 450 yen.

OUR TOKIO LETTER

Misrepresenting the Washington Conference: Sense or Sentiment: A Banking Nuisance

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tokio, Jan. 15.

Despite the fact that Japan is really and truly in better international accord with the Powers than was the case a brief 24 months ago and that much capital has been made of this fact as indicating the desire of the Japanese Government and people to live on terms of intimacy and friendship with the rest of the world, there is a not uninfluential section that regards the Washington Conference and its resultant treaties and understandings as a net spread by the Powers to ensnare Japan and into which she has fallen. Those inclined to this trend of thought are generally the swashbuckling, sword-rattling sort, not necessarily professional soldiers or sailors, but a noisy political sect that interpret every concession made or wrong righted as a lack of backbone by the authorities. The Shantung retrocession and the Sino-Japanese postal pact—both results of the Washington Conference—are utilized by these people to belabour the Government on the score that, while these were matters that concerned Japan and China directly, the Government “disgraced the country” by “bowing to the instructions of foreign countries.” The Quadruple Agreement, which has taken the place of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, is declared to be “only an Anglo-Saxon means to hold Japan in check.” In this frame of mind, those papers that have always been “agin the Government”—no matter what Cabinet happened to be in power—print wild editorial articles in which, strange to say, all the venom and bitterness that results from a belief—however wrong this may be—that Japan has been “let down,” is directed largely against Great Britain, Japan’s erstwhile ally.

A REACTIONARIES CLUB

The group of reactionaries, who regard the Washington Conference and all its fruits as just so many spokes in the wheel of Japan’s future growth, have formed themselves into a political organization called the Kakushin Club. They include a large number of the intellectuals of the country and many members of the Diet, but fair-minded and level-headed Japanese agree that the creed of the Kakushin Club submerges sense for sentiment. For instance, in one of the reports of the Club, it is stated that the “awakening of India is the direct result of the abrogation of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance,” although the Government had been blamed for merging the Alliance into the Quadruple Pact. The “Yorodzu” a popular Tokio daily newspaper, which, although not in any way directly controlled by the Kakushin Club, yet

endorses its policies very often, has a particularly uncalled-for editorial in which Britain is “perfidious” from head to foot.

The “crafty tactics of Great Britain” are described. They include the arrest of Gandhi and all (sic) his followers and steps against Indians which show that India is not likely ever to receive her independence from Great Britain! China is ridiculed for imagining that Great Britain is her friend, and in support of this atrocious nonsense, it is argued that “although Weihaiwei is useless to Great Britain, yet she will not make a rightful retrocession without some *quid pro quo*; that Tibet is fast falling under British influence and that Pien-Ma has been occupied at a time when “Hands off China” seemed to be the motto of Great Britain.” America gets a sound berating too, on the old argument that so long as she will not give the Philippines complete independence and so long as she compels Mexico to listen to her, “so long must she stand convicted at the bar of world opinion of cherishing dangerous schemes of aggrandizement.” The attack on America, however, is nothing new. Foreigners in Japan have grown used to that, and although other papers have grown distinctly friendly towards the United States since the Washington Conference, the “Yorodzu” has ever been keen to discover the “craftiness” of Anglo-Saxon America. Its present vicious attack on Great Britain is not only unusual, but also makes one wonder what could be at the bottom of this sudden dislike contracted for an old ally.

TOO MANY SMALL BANKS.

In view of the near-panic that overtook the banking business towards the close of last year and because of the re-adjustment that is being contemplated by the Government and private financiers, it is a remarkable fact that there are over 5,000 banking institutions (including branches) in the country. Even more remarkable is the fact that nearly one half of these are small houses, comparable with Chinese money-changing shops, and the existence of these petty places is, naturally, a menace to the healthy development of the money market. The Government has become aware of this and is planning radical measures to neutralize these dangerous traits in the financial world and is at present considering two ways of tackling the matter—(1) to reform the present legislation regarding banking; (2) to retain the legislation, but to make additional clauses that will enable the banks to be adequately and regularly superintended by Government auditors, at the same time encouraging amalgamations and combines. It is doubtful whether the authorities can afford the additional expense that the employment of a large number of superintendents would entail. The enactment of legislation forcibly closing several of the more doubtful and weak establishments is also considered unfeasible, and it is generally presumed that the authorities will call on all the bank-

ers concerned to co-operate with the Finance Department in forming amalgamations, thus reducing the number of banks and at the same time placing the amalgamated establishments on a sounder and firmer footing.

SILK GAMBLERS.

Japanese silk men have received a warning that unless artificially-created fluctuations on the silk exchange in Yokohama cease, American silk men will turn to China for their purchases of the raw material. The warning was brought to Japan by Mr. Uchida, a member of the House of Peers, and a former Vice-Minister of Communications, who said that American manufacturers, in conversation with him, expressed unfeigned impatience at the local gambling on the silk market, which greatly impeded the business of silk men in America. Silk men across the Pacific, Mr. Uchida said, all want standard prices to prevail, and unless the Japanese silk men awaken to this demand of their best customer, China will be invited to supply the needs of silk men in the United States and Canada.

Mr. Uchida lays special emphasis on the fact that the silk export trade forms the backbone of Japan’s export business and in fact contributes more than any other single thing to this country’s prosperity. It would be foolish then, he argues, not to seek to satisfy good customers who are not asking Japan to undersell, but are not willing to pay artificially-stimulated prices that change at the whim and fancy of the gamblers on the silk exchange at Yokohama. “I was well treated in America,” he told silk men here, “but with their characteristic bluntness and straightforwardness, the American manufacturers also hinted strongly that, unless dishonesty is eliminated in the silk business, American silk men will have no other alternative than to apply to China for raw silk that is now bought in Japan. This hint I am passing on to you.”

RUSSIANS AT MANILA

Awaiting Leave to Land

Manila, Feb. 2.

Governor-General Wood announces donations of \$5,000 each from the Red Cross Society and the American Russian Relief Fund for the aid of the Russian refugees.

Admiral Stark is in Manila conferring with General Wood every day and is anxiously awaiting word from Washington with regard to the request for permission to settle here. The refugees wish to put the ships in the inter-island trade.—Reuter.

Lady Aglen Gone Home

Peking, Feb. 1.

Lady Aglen, with her two youngest children, left for England on Tuesday.—Reuter.

PARIS LETTER

Keeping Out the Unnecessary Foreigner: Bakers' Strike: A Boxing Scandal

From Our Own Correspondent.

Paris, Dec. 8.

As in other countries, the war has produced various manifestations of xenophobia in France. They do not assume any acute or violent form, but they all tend towards putting protective walls round everything French, so as to prevent any share from falling into the grasp of foreigners. In the early part of the war we saw a good many able-bodied neutrals, and even allies, going about freely and doing good business while Frenchmen were engaged in the dangerous work of defending their country, and the recollection of this spectacle undoubtedly has a great deal to do with the present attitude towards foreigners. The general sentiment is expressed by that very widely circulated journal, the "*Petit Parisien*," in an article by M. Maurice Prax, who says that in quite a number of countries barriers are raised against Frenchmen who endeavour to carry on business. France, he remarks, does not intend to be treated as a sort of desert land over which anyone can travel at will. It is a large and beautiful house, open to all the friends of France, but also a house with doors, the keys of which must sometimes be turned. France cannot go on receiving people who show her the door in their own homes.

These are the legitimate sentiments of the landowner who is willing to throw open his park to the public so long as the public does not do too much damage to his property. France is a stronghold of order and respect for individual rights. Any anti-foreign measures which she may take will be inspired first and foremost by a determination to keep out Bolshevism. The Chamber has even gone so far as to pass a Bill under which no foreigner may buy real estate or lease property for more than nine years without obtaining permission from the authorities. As this measure has been made retroactive and therefore may infringe on treaty rights, it is not likely to be accepted by the Senate, but the Chamber, in voting such a Bill, has given a good indication of the national conviction that there are too many foreigners in France.

NO BREAD.

After being without strikes for quite a long time, we have had one of an unusual kind. The master bakers, after much arguing with the authorities for an increase in the price of bread, which is fixed by the Prefect of every department, obtained a rise of five centimes a kilo, but, not considering this enough, they decided at a mass meeting to close their shops. On Sunday morning Paris-

ians read in their newspapers that they would not be able to buy any bread after noon. They made a prompt rush to the shops, and long before noon there was not a scrap of bread to be had. Meanwhile the Prefect was making hurried arrangements to provide, the 1,500 tons of bread which the capital consumes daily. The army bakeries were utilized as much as possible, and every batch of bread was rushed off, as soon as it came out of the ovens, to the 20 town halls, where people were told to apply for it. There was, of course, not nearly enough to go round, and thousands of people, after waiting more or less patiently for three or four hours, had to give it up. In some of the outlying districts, the crowd lost patience and broke the windows of some bakers' shops. Perhaps these incidents helped to show the bakers that their cause was extremely unpopular, and after one day's resistance they surrendered and proceeded to supply bread at the price which they had asserted would slowly but surely drive them into bankruptcy.

Their best argument is that it is unjust to limit the price they can get for their bread while there is no limitation of the price of flour. This objection seems likely to be met by the establishment of a sliding scale which would regulate the price of bread in accordance with that of flour. It is admitted that little or no profit is to be made out of ordinary household bread, but Paris bakers enjoy what is called a *tolérance* in respect of the long loaves of fancy bread, which have a very large sale. They are allowed to charge the full price of one kilo of bread for fancy loaves, or rather rolls, that being their shape, weighing less than three-quarters of a kilo. As it is known that many bakers' businesses have changed hands during the past few years at constantly increasing values, the public not unnaturally concludes that the bakers have done pretty well in the past, and is not inclined to be too indulgent towards them in the future.

CARPENTIER AND SIKI.

We seem to be destined to hear a great deal about the boxing match between Carpentier and his coloured compatriot, Battling Siki. It may be remembered that this encounter, which took place in Paris on September 24, was won, to the general surprise, by Siki. It was supposed at the time that Carpentier had been caught napping and had lost through over confidence. Since then Siki has twice been in trouble—first for assaulting one of the opposition seconds in another match, and then for creating a disturbance in the street after celebrating Armistice night rather unwisely. The first of these offences caused the French Boxing Federation to take away the title of light heavy-weight champion which Siki had won by his victory over Carpentier. Thereupon M. Diagne, a coloured gentleman who sits for Senegal in the Chamber of Deputies,

took up the cudgels on behalf of Siki, and when the Boxing Federation's subsidy came before the Chamber in the course of the debate on the Budget estimates, he asserted that the match had been "faked" and insinuated that some members of the Federation knew about it.

Siki himself afterwards stated that he was told, a fortnight before the match, by his manager, Hellers, that the whole thing had been "arranged;" that he, Siki, was to make only a show of resistance and allow himself to be apparently knocked out in the fourth round. It was represented to him that he had little or no chance of beating Carpentier on his merits and that, if he agreed to the proposed combination, he would be sure of getting at least Frs. 20,000. Siki says he did not like the idea, but, being a poor man and having a wife and child, he agreed. The consequence was that his manager ceased to train him, and he kept himself in condition by taking long walks. When the match began, he kept up the comedy for a couple of rounds, but then it occurred to him that if he could beat Carpentier he would make a great deal more money. Accordingly he changed his tactics and began to fight in earnest. Carpentier was taken by surprise, lost his nerve and made mistake after mistake. When Siki returned to his corner, he says, he was bitterly reproached by his manager who asked him if he was mad, but this did not alter his determination to win, and he went on and obtained the verdict. The story is flatly denied by Hellers, Carpentier and the latter's manager, Descamps, and we are now waiting for the corroborative evidence which Siki's champion, M. Diagne, says he can produce.

TSINGTAO SALT FIELDS

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, Jan. 28.

Mr. Miao, a special representative of the Chinese Government, arrived here recently, and held a preliminary consultation with the Japanese Salt Committee. Dr. Akiyama was instructed to proceed with the transfer to those salt fields whose owners accepted the compensation scheme, but the Chinese Committee refused to accept the transfer of a portion only of the saltfields, as it would be inconvenient for several of their members to remain here until all the salt owners had come into line. The Japanese argued that, if the Chinese refused transfers from those who were willing to accept the terms, they must put up with any consequent delay. The Chinese strongly combatted this, asserting that they are prepared to complete the transfer of all properties, and not a portion only, and that, therefore, the Japanese are responsible for any delay. In the circumstances, it seems that the completion of the business is likely to be delayed indefinitely.

NEW COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA IN GREAT BRITAIN

By Our Trade Union Correspondent.

Manchester, Dec. 18.

The cause of Communism has received a great fillip in Great Britain as a result of the election to Parliament of Messrs. Saklatvala and Walton Newbold. Both of these gentlemen are avowed Communists although the Parsee is counted as a member of the Labour Party, while the Labour Whips have been refused to Newbold. The attitude of the Party leaders appears to be that Newbold is an Englishman and ought to know better, while Saklatvala being only a benighted heathen can be excused.

The very fact of the Bolsheviks having properly elected representatives in Parliament has served to create in the minds of the masses a new and more respectful attitude towards them. With its genius for propaganda the Communist Party in Great Britain has taken full advantage of the new opportunities this gives them. Articles defining the Parties' attitude to all sorts of subjects have lately appeared in all kinds of papers under the signature of Walton Newbold, and have been printed by editors to gratify their readers' curiosity about the new member. They are all thinly veiled propaganda, and are probably composed at the Communist Headquarters in King St. Covent Garden, London.

Great "Communist Rallies," are also being held in the large industrial centres. The largest halls are engaged and easily filled with "Comrades," sympathizers, and the curious, all of whom appear willingly to pay sixpence or a shilling for their seats. These meetings are addressed by the two Communist M. P.'s, one or two of the clever Communist journalists like Paul of the "Communist Review," and Clydeside rebels such as W. Gallagher. There has also been a new influx of cheap Communist literature into those workshops where the workers have been badly hit by wage reductions.

This printed propaganda is cheap, plausible, well-printed, and to the point. Just as a debased currency drives out a better it seems to have entirely taken the place of the old I.L.P. Pamphlets that did so much to pave the way for the existing Labour Party. With the disappearance of the old socialist tract there has also gone the old fierce street corner socialist orator. He has "arrived" now and is tame and respectable. The man of to-day on the orange box is a different fellow and to a great extent his methods are different also.

The red-tied orator of yesterday believed that if only the worker would listen and believe, then the Socialist Commonwealth could be born almost at once. He denounced the system of Capitalism in general, and painted glowing pictures of an imminent day when all injustices would be remedied and all tears wiped away. The Communist propagandist has adroitly marked the

popularity of the cheap scurrilous press which lives by pretended exposures of scandals of all kinds, social, political, parliamentary, and personal. He does not denounce Mr. Asquith or Mr. Lloyd George as oppressors of the poor. He aims to show through laboriously gathered lists of shareholders in companies, and investigations into personal friendships and inter-marriages that the conspicuous politicians are all the willing or helpless tools of great financiers and financial corporations. His avowed aim is to produce the impression in the mind of the working man that he is being "had," and that every non-Communist party is corrupt and fattening itself at the expense of the honest worker.

As the average man has already, through "John Bull," and the cheaper Sunday papers, a predilection for believing that there is dirty work going on all around him, this campaign has considerable success. When thrown out by Communist speakers or printed in Communist tracts the innuendoes appear just to steer clear of the actually libellous, but when they get to the streets or the workshops they have usually acquired form and substance, and someone is ready to prove the existence of a corrupt motive behind every action of the Government.

Another feature of Communist orators is their insistence on the fact that they are "Students of History." They usually use this phrase to emphasize their assertion that never in the history of mankind have the classes who held power in a State relinquished it through the appeals, reasoning, or logic, of the classes beneath them. They are emphatic that it has only been done and can only be done by bloodshed and force and have no hesitation in boldly saying so.

It is characteristic of the new creed that its success becomes more marked in proportion to the misery and destitution of those to whom it is offered. In those industries where the workers are still relatively well paid, such as the printing trade, it has very few adherents. There is a much greater proportion among the engineers, and the mining unions are honeycombed with active Communists. Coming down to the unemployed it must be confessed that the Communist Party has practically ousted Labour and is responsible for all the "hunger marching" and other agitations that have forced this evil once more into the public eye. The unemployed who have been marching from all parts of the kingdom to London are undoubtedly genuine seekers for work and deserving of sympathy, but their leaders in every industrial centre are without exception Communists.

The great difficulty Communist agitators in England are faced with is that while their policy is to make the present system unworkable and destroy it, which can be easiest done

by increasing existing misery and destitution, they have at the same time to press for drastic ameliorative measures or their teachings will not be listened to. It is no good explaining to a hungry man that it will be better for him in the long run to be hungrier, and to be unemployed that Utopia will be here all the quicker if he is fired out of his job. The British are a practical people and the Party that can convince them of its ability to give bread to the hungry and homes to the homeless is the one that will get support. Knowing this the Communist agitators support all kinds of palliatives that are at variance with the anti-reformist doctrines of the Great Panjandrums of the movement at Moscow. They are careful, however, to keep these heresies out of their printed propagandas.

For propagandists so adroit in other ways nothing appears so surprising to a close observer as their tactical error of backing the Republicans in Ireland and making a feature of that support in their English publications. The cowardly and fanatical murderers who are now opposing the Free State are nowhere held in such deep contempt as among the English and Scotch working classes. Why this whole-hearted Communist support should be given to the so-called Republicans it is difficult to say, for no body of men seem to have less International leanings or make such a fetish of the superiority of their own country. It is perhaps only another phase of the policy of maintaining chaotic conditions in every non-Communist country in the hope of profiting from the resultant disorder.

Despite their wearisome iteration of scorn and contempt for Parliament it is easy to see that the English members of the Party are enormously bucked up with their success in getting two members in. This shows itself in some curious ways not the least humorous of which is the publication in serial form in "The Communist" of those speeches Mr. Newbold prepares for infliction on his hapless fellow members but which they escape through his inability to "catch the Speaker's eye." It says something for the determination and endurance of the subscribers to that wrong-headed rag that despite this terrible infliction its circulation is still well maintained.

Gen. Hsu's March on Kuangtung

Peking, Feb. 3.

Gen. Hsu Chung-chih left Foochow yesterday, following his troops, who are marching towards Kuangtung. Preparatory to Admiral Sah Chen-ping resuming the Civil Governorship of Fukien, two Chinese men-of-war have come up to the bridge.—Reuter.

PEKING, Feb. 3.—Prince Nayinto, Pacification Commissioner for Outer Mongolia, has left for Paotingfu to consult General Tsao Kun with regard to the restoration of Outer Mongolia.—Reuter.

OUR AUSTRALIAN LETTER

The General Elections: Proposed Federal Convention: Revolution on Paper: Queensland's Shadow: Expensive Law for Wool Men: Quarrel Between K. Cs.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Melbourne, Dec. 27.

The first obvious reflection upon the results of the general elections for the House of Representatives is that the anti-Labour elements in the electorates have returned only 30 members in support of the Labour Party as compared with 45 on the other side. The word "anti-Labour" is not used as many do, for the fact seems established that sectional interests may vote anti-Labour in the first instance, but where secondary votes are to be counted these anti-Labourites may quite conceivably and logically vote pro-Labour rather than pro-anything else. The important fact is that the Ministerialists have about as many real supporters as Labour, which leaves a miscellaneous corner party—all sitting on the Ministerial cross-benches—of about 15. The cross-benches, therefore, hold the balance of power, and Labour has no more right than the Ministerialists to say that these cross-benchers will support their party as much as the Opposition. It is quite on the cards that a *modus vivendi* will be found whereby the Government will be carried on and Labour kept in opposition.

It requires little political acumen to discover that, if there is a break-up of the Nationalists or the Country Party, all the ex-Labour followers of each will immediately revert to their original political church. To ask them to change and support the people who have stoned their prophets is to seek the unattainable. Sooner or later this must happen, and despite the fact that the Prime Minister is trying to hold the Nationalists together in order to keep his Labour followers from reverting to Labourism, with its tendency towards Communism, first principles will eventually prevail, unless the Conservatives, Liberals and so forth welcome the ex-Labour followers into their ranks as honest converts, instead of, as at present, treating them as suspected spies and dishonourable renegades. It seems likely that the final justification of this view will not be forthcoming for three years, but then, saving some special intervention, it seems inevitable.

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES.

The Country Party placed in the forefront of its programme a demand for a Federal convention which would provide for the cutting up of the big States into smaller ones, and in the northeast of New South Wales the winning of two seats is held to have been a justification of this policy. In other parts of Australia the Small States Movement, as it was called, was treated with indifference, and,

indeed, hardly mentioned. Mr. Hughes promised a Bill to create such a convention, provided that it dealt with all matters affecting the Constitution. The Labour Party, which is as unificationist as Russian Sovietism, is against any method other than that already provided by the Constitution for dealing with this matter. It follows as a consequence that if the Country Party still wants its convention it must placate those who can help it to obtain the necessary legislation. Dr. Page, the Country leader, might think it well worth his while to join the Hughes Government, provided he were given a promise of the introduction of a Convention Bill at an early moment. He may be the more easily persuaded as the late elections saw the defeat of his predecessor as leader and of his deputy leader, and the only experienced politician in his party is favourable to such a course. Mr. Hughes is also pledged to certain alterations in the Constitution, more especially that which has been interpreted by the High Court (appeal to the Privy Council being refused) as bringing the State employees on inter-state services, such as railways, under the control of the Federal Court of Arbitration. Upon this matter, which is considered vital, the Government and the Country Party are agreed, while the Opposition is strongly opposed. It seems, therefore, that sectional anti-Labour differences may find common ground for adjustment upon the Federal Convention proposals of the Country Party. The matter, so far, has not even been mentioned in the press, but it seems certain that it has not been overlooked by so astute a politician and tactician as the Prime Minister.

THE RED OBJECTIVE.

Quite the most extraordinary part of the elections is the evidence afforded that Labour does not believe in its own policy. It has a marvellous programme of clauses, sub-clauses, principles and practice all mixed up together, and through the whole, which numbers 2,000 or 3,000 words, there is the red thread of Communism running, greatly hidden or camouflaged. The objective is set out as the "socialization of industry, production, distribution and exchange," and later on we are promised that the persons engaged in these occupations shall have a voice in their management, and that on top of all there shall be a supreme economic council which, in due course, shall take the place of Parliament. The "fighting platform" includes the abolition of the States, their Parliaments, and their Governors, and the appointment of local Assemblies

(they might as well be called Soviets) which will take their orders from the Federal House of Representatives (or Soviet) which will be the only House of Parliament, the Senate being abolished. Under defence, there is to be the abolition of military oaths, distinctions between grades of officers, salutes and other forms of discipline. There is an ominous sound about a provision that after citizen soldiers have been trained they should be allowed to keep their arms. With this, and much more like it, in its programme, the Labour Party has gained at least six seats, which, meaning 12 on a division, is worth having in a House of only 75. The programme containing the above was adopted after much controversy, extending over many months, and was the subject of several conventions amongst the delegates of the various unions. There was no serious thought given to it by the electors. As the Prime Minister said on one occasion the people were so happy, contented and well-off that they did not give politics any attention.

At the eleventh hour the acting leader of the Labour Party, in actual politics, issued a statement flatly repudiating the whole programme, and said that, if his party got back to office, they would adhere to the policy of the programme as interpreted by Mr. Fisher and other Labour leaders in office from 1910 to 1916. In other words, the actual parliamentarians defied the combined organizations which had drawn up their policy. It is difficult to say where the matter will now end. Labour may cut Sovietism out of its programme, or dismiss Senator Gardiner, the acting leader, and others who followed him. It is a curious position, but the chief fact seems to be that the electors themselves, who voted Labour, did not mind what the programme was.

THE SHADOW IN QUEENSLAND.

The Queensland Labour Government, which has held office since 1915, must face the electors next year. During its term it has abolished the Legislative Council, in spite of a hostile decision from the electors on the subject,—it has amended pastoral leases so as to increase rents (a thing which amounts to legal repudiation), and it has piled up mountains of debt with very little to show for it. The percentage of unemployed in that State has been greater than anywhere else in Australia, though the Government has about £2,000,000 sunk in State enterprises which should be able to afford a considerable amount of employment. The Premier, Mr. Theodore, throughout the late Federal elections sought once more to placate the small farmers, who originally put his party into power, by assuring them that, if the Federal Government did not protect the small sugarcane grower from the avarice of the refiners and millers, his own government would commandeer the output of the mills and attend to the business. It was all in vain.

He was going to win four or five seats for Labour; in actual fact he won only one, and that was a Labour seat at the last election and until the occupant of it was driven out of the Party.

The Labour section of the Country Party tried to create a diversion, but failed. Throughout the sugar districts the Nationalists triumphed, and the only Country member who won a seat was pledged to the Nationalists to refuse to vote Labour into office. One Country member retired at the last moment, and a successor from the Country Party figured ignominiously at the bottom of the poll, while a Nationalist romped home against Labour. The results will give Mr. Theodore a good deal to think about, especially in their relation to his own prospects within the next few months. Once rid of the incubus of Labour misrule, Queensland should make rapid progress.

THE WOOL CASES.

At last finality appears to have been reached in a series of cases arising out of the commandeering and disposal of the wool clip during three years of the war. Undoubtedly the pastoralists did very well, but there were many others involved. The fellmongers, for instance, found themselves compelled to subject their wool to the general control, and did so feeling themselves morally and legally bound. Yet they now find that the profits on wool, over and above the contract price with the Imperial Government are not coming their way, and they hold that about £2,000,000 is involved. The High Court has decided that they cannot recover profits because they had no definite contract with the Central Wool Committee, which was practically the Government agency. Yet another case has taken many months, and must have cost thousands and tens of thousands of pounds. In this the Commonwealth sued a wool spinning company. The amount involved was fabulous, and the amount spent was the same. In the end, the Court found that the Commonwealth had no legal power to make the contracts which it required to be fulfilled, but that the company would have to pay up war profits taxes, and pay much in costs. Doubtless there will be some more law cases to decide what's what. There was one prolonged trial on matters of fact, and two or three other hearings before eminent judges about something.

In giving his judgment with other High Court judges, Mr. Justice Higgins commented upon the fact that 62 pages of pleadings were made to do duty when two or three would have been ample. He made this sarcastic remark:—"If this case should come to be considered by some other tribunal, it will probably be noted with surprise that in this court it was not until what is grotesquely called amended further pleading to amended reply and amended reply to amended defence to cross-action, that the main point was taken. After that,

one is inclined to wonder whether the War Time Profits Act should ever have been repealed.

POLITICAL HONOUR.

A knotty point was raised at the last minute of the elections between Mr. Piddington, K.C., and Mr. Hughes, K.C., the Prime Minister. Some nine years ago, the latter, as Attorney-General in a Labour Government, was moved with a desire to appoint Mr. Piddington to the High Court bench, and did so. After strongly worded protests from the Bar Councils in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, Mr. Piddington resigned the honour before he was actually sworn in. Since then, he has been Chairman of the Inter-State Commission, and has held several lucrative Government appointments. Up to the last moment he seemed to be on the most friendly and intimate terms with the Prime Minister, though apparently anxious to enter Parliament. He stood at a bye-election not so long ago and lost his deposit. Suddenly Mr. Piddington came out to challenge Mr. Hughes for a new division which had been created, and seemed a safe Nationalist one. Mr. Piddington had many unpleasant things to say, and as a final *bon bouche*, a few days before the elections, Mr. Piddington charged Mr. Hughes with trying to pack the judiciary, and produced a letter received by Mr. "X" from Mr. Hughes over nine years ago, in which Mr. Hughes asked Mr. "X" to ascertain if he could what were Mr. Piddington's general views on the relations of the States and the Commonwealth. He wanted to know whether Mr. Piddington was a "rabid States Righter." Apparently he was told and the appointment followed.

This action of Mr. Hughes was now seized upon as proof that he sought to pack the High Court bench. In actual fact, most of the judges in Australia have been active in politics, and their opinions are well known, and if their party is in power they get appointed, and if it is not they remain in politics until it is. Mr. Hughes may have been in error in wanting to appoint Mr. Piddington, who many declared was temperamentally unfitted for the position, but he cannot be blamed for trying to ascertain generally his bias on what to the Labour Party was an important question. Had he appointed Mr. Piddington first and later found that he was a rabid State-Righter he would have helped to wreck his own Party. The question of political honour is not all on one side. It transpired that Mr. "X" was no less a person than the brother-in-law of Mr. Piddington, and that the letter was shown him nine years ago in confidence, and that it has been made public without the knowledge or consent of the actual person to whom Mr. Hughes wrote the confidential communication. The brother-in-law himself has written to make this clear. Mr. Hughes defeated Mr. Piddington by nearly 5,000 votes, but the incident leaves an unpleas-

UNSATISFACTORY WHARF RULES AT TSINGTAO

Foreign Shipping Firms' Complaint of Frivolous Delays

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tsingtao, Jan. 28.

Wharf arrangements here continue to be far from satisfactory, ships being held up quite unnecessarily, and delayed upon frivolous pretexts. A letter on the subject from the Tsingtao manager of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., appeared in the local press only last week, complaining of the state of affairs, and, from inquiries made, it is certain that he is only voicing the opinions of all foreign shipping firms. It is said that the delay and inconvenience is not attributable to one section of the community only, and the Chinese assert that eventually all difficulties will be removed.

In the meantime, shipping business is suffering. If the Government wish Tsingtao to become a prosperous and important port, they cannot do better than adopt the regulations in force under the German régime, which were entirely satisfactory and equitable.

Lack of Rule in Tsingtao

Peking, Feb. 3.

It is understood that the Japanese Minister has drawn the attention of the Government to the detrimental effect in Tsingtao of the Chinese Administration. The Government urged Gen. Hsiung Pingchi to return to his post, and last night Gen. Hsiung left for Tsingtao.—Reuter.

A Disastrous Tidal Wave at Honolulu

Honolulu, Feb. 4.

A report from Hilo says that several Japanese fishermen are believed to have been drowned by a tidal wave which struck Honolulu yesterday. The wave reached a height of 15 ft., demolished several boats and swept a cottage from its foundations.—Reuter.

The Russian Refugees

Peking, Feb. 2.

The Government recently wired to Gen. Chang Tso-lin asking him to give every assistance to the Russian refugees in Manchuria, and especially to the American Red Cross that has gone there for their relief. He has replied, promising every possible assistance and suggesting that a relief camp be formed for the Russians at Shanhaikuan.—Reuter.

aut taste in the mouth, and rather suggests that the only safety for a politician lies in his appointing as judges men whose political careers leave undoubted any question of their general opinions.

SIR H. DE SAUSMAREZ'S NEW POST

Bailiff of Guernsey and its Dependencies

His many friends in Shanghai and in China generally will receive with interest and pleasure the news that Sir Havilland Walter de Sausmarez, formerly Judge of H. M. Supreme Court in China, has been appointed Bailiff of Guernsey and its Dependencies by His Majesty the King.

In its report of the appointment, the "Guernsey Evening Press" of December 12, states that St. Martin's has now the distinction of holding His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and the President of the States of Guernsey, and their residences are but a stone's throw from each other.

Sir Havilland had a cheery day yesterday, says the paper. It must have been just a bit disturbing to the required mental concentration on golf to respond to an eternally ringing 'phone at the Royal Guernsey Golf Club house, but Sir Havilland accepts congratulations with charming grace, and there was even a relaxing of the stern legal mien that would have revised the character sketch of any "Gentleman with a Duster."

Then in the afternoon, a grey, quiet afternoon, it was pleasant to walk through the big Manor fields, and the Manorial umbrage of trees and shrubs, past the verdant little lake with its well-appointed craft, and knock for admission at the great doors.

So through the great Hall—one of the largest in Guernsey, by the way—into the study; and here, indeed, was the soul of the new Bailiff expressed in tomes. There were indications of Sir Havilland's love for his native island in the almost complete cycle of works on Guernsey which he possesses, and which have been to him the Serbian pasturage wherein he might browse under the hot Eastern skies. And if "literature in a hurry" counts for anything, there is that great pile of newspapers, for, be it known, Sir Havilland was never so far away that his Guernsey newspaper could not intrigue him. So it will be apprehended that Sir Havilland did not come to Guernsey with a "twilight" knowledge and merely an anecdote. He came mentally replenished with the living present, and at once entered into our public life with zest. His remarkable powers were never better seen than at the St. Martin's public mass meeting on the subject of Island Taxation, when in a summing up speech of remarkable clarity he placed a confused conflict of opinion into three definable propositions, and secured a reasoned and properly directed vote. That was a masterly *chef d'œuvre* which has been vividly remembered. Of his kindness in giving his beautiful estate for the use of the St. Martin's Cottage Garden Society Shows, the Committee's gratitude is a "hardy an-

nual"; and of the many social and public festivities made the more successful by the patronage of Sir Havilland and Lady de Sausmarez, G.B.E., our files bear frequent record.

Asked what were his views, Sir Havilland said he kept an open mind on most matters. He would say, however that he had sympathy with provisions for housing designed to help the working classes, and would listen with sympathy to any application to introduce a Workmen's Compensation Act. As to representation, Sir Havilland smilingly observed that he thought representation in the States by Women Deputies an excellent thing, if these were returned.

FRIENDLY SESSION OF PARLIAMENT

Tendencies of the New House Reviewed: Unanimity of Foreign Questions

London, Dec. 18.

Reviewing the 'Parliamentary situation at the prorogation, the head of Reuter's Parliamentary staff writes:—

Notwithstanding one or two noisy incidents, the brief but important session which has closed deserves to be known as the "friendly session." The election seems to have left unusually little bitterness behind it and if the Labour Party were dissatisfied with the unemployment measures of the Government, there were few other causes of quarrel between the Government and the various Opposition groups. All parties, indeed, co-operated with the Government in the endeavour to find a policy to pursue in the matter of reparations and inter-allied debts, and the significance of the fact that all the Opposition parties combined to frame a series of joint questions to the Government on its policy in those difficult and delicate matters, and that all parties expressed satisfaction with Mr. Bonar Law's statement, cannot be exaggerated. It means that the Prime Minister goes to Paris for the resumed Conference with a virtual mandate from the whole House of Commons and that the desire for unanimity in foreign policy, which has always been marked in the House of Commons, whatever the domestic position may be, still persists.

While, for the moment, there is no acute party cleavage and the Labour Party recognize that a long campaign is necessary before their programme can find acceptance, there is no doubt but that the normal party divisions will reappear in due course. This process would naturally be accelerated if the Coalition Conservatives are brought into closer relations with the Ministry by the absorption into the Government of their leaders, Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Sir L. Worthington Evans and Sir Robert Horne. In that event the National Liberals, being left isolated on one flank, would naturally lean towards

the Liberals and Liberal reunion might become an accomplished fact under the force of circumstances.

OLD CONSERVATIVES WANTED.

The enlistment of the former Conservative leaders in the new Government is almost a necessity for Mr. Bonar Law. It is admitted on all hands that the present Treasury (Government) Bench is very weak both from the debating and the administrative point of view. The main responsibility for the conduct of debate rests with Mr. Bonar Law, Mr. Baldwin, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Sir Douglas Hogg, the Attorney-General, who in the course of his first and very short session has shown that he is a great acquisition. So far Mr. Bonar Law has been acting both as Prime Minister and Leader of the House, but this double strain would be serious in the course of a long and controversial session. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, especially with the question of inter-allied and American debts on his hands, has too many departmental duties to perform to have time to spare for close and daily attendance in the House, and the legal duties of the Attorney-General leave him little leisure for Parliamentary work.

In these circumstances there is a confident expectation in political circles that there will be a reshuffle of the Cabinet at an early date and it is predicted that before the next session ends Mr. Chamberlain and Sir L. Worthington Evans will have rejoined the Ministry. Sir Robert Horne, having just taken up a great commercial post, may be reluctant to return, but it is suggested that Lord Robert Cecil may find himself in sufficient sympathy with the new Government to give his active co-operation. Such a reconstitution of the Ministry would mean the disappearance of any division which may exist between the orthodox Conservatives and those Conservatives who think, with Mr. Chamberlain, that in the end there will have to be a coalition of the non-Socialist parties.

LIBERALS AND MR. LL. GEORGE.

The question of Liberal reunion is beset with certain difficulties, but the movement has made some headway during the last few weeks. There is, however, a general disposition to let events take their course and allow reunion, if it does come about, to come about gradually and spontaneously. It is understood that there is no personal question between Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Asquith to bar the way to reunion, but there are several undercurrents of opinion in the Liberal Party on the matter, and it is rumoured that a prominent Liberal peer has declared that he will leave the Liberal Party if there is reunion under the leadership of Mr. Lloyd George.—Reuter.

ACCORDING to the vernacular press, M. Joffe, the Soviet plenipotentiary, is returning to Shanghai shortly, the Japanese authorities having made life unpleasant for him.

BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER

Gen. Ivanoff's New Career: Lightner's Sentence: High Seas Honeymoon

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Jan. 18.

Leaving his wife in Shanghai until he has earned enough money to bring her to this coast, Gen. Alexander Ivanoff, a leader of the late Tsar's armies in the early stages of the Great War, arrived in Seattle a few days ago on the str. Iyo Maru. He was dressed in a rough blue sweater and an ill-fitting suit of clothes, and carried an English-Russian dictionary in his hand. Gen. Ivanoff declared that, although he was penniless, he was not discouraged. He came across the Pacific in the steerage. He said that he was hounded all over the country by Bolshevik agents, but that he managed to reach Harbin, from whence he subsequently made his way to Japan. He will stay in Seattle for a while, then begin life anew and seek a job. The fact that he is one of the mighty fallen does not worry General Ivanoff very much now that his life is safe, he said when he first stepped off the boat.

TRAVELLERS FROM THE EAST.

Dr. W. E. O' Hara, of Shanghai, arrived here on board the R. M. S. Empress of Australia. He is on his way to London to take a post-graduate course in surgery. Also on the saloon list were Mr. P. Homs, Spanish foreign trade advisor at Shanghai, and Mrs. Homs; Mrs. C. K. Gish, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Hannigan, all of Shanghai. Mr. and Mrs. Homs are on their way to New York. Other passengers included Commander R. V. Eyre, D.S.O., R.N., who is on leave from the British squadron at Hongkong to England; and Mr. F. R. Sandford, a New York financier and formerly of the Asia Banking Corporation. Mr. J. Rosenthal, of Manila, manager in the Far East for the Hood Rubber Co., of Boston, Mass., was also on the liner, as were three Japanese members of the delegation to the silk exposition to be held at New York, February 5-15; the party comprised Messrs. Kinzo Nishitani, M. Miyazaki, formerly manager in Japan for the American Trans-Ocean Corporation, and Shiozaburo Hoshino, managing director of the Nichi-Bai Kaibushiki Kaisha.

LIGHTNER'S SENTENCE.

Tacoma advices state that Dave Lightner, the notorious "narcotic baron," has begun, at McNeil Island Penitentiary, his three and a half year term for violation of the drug laws. Thus ended Lightner's trial at Portland, Oregon, following his capture at sea as a stowaway. He had escaped from gaol at Shanghai, where he was caught after he had

disappeared from Portland while out on bail awaiting trial.

A CHINESE ROMANCE.

A Victoria, B. C., court has reserved judgment in the case of Wong Chung-quong, who is sparing no money in his endeavour to prove that a trunk for which he assumed responsibility while in transit on the str. Protesilaus, and in which he admits drugs were found under a false bottom, contained the drugs without his knowledge. His story is that he left for China in a hurry on the receipt of a cablegram to the effect that his wife and five children had been captured by bandits in a raid on their village. He found, however, that his family was safe, and that it was the children from a school near by who had been abducted. When leaving for British Columbia, he said, a man in Canton gave him the trunk to bring to a man in Victoria. The accused, a man of wealth and influence, has lived in Victoria for many years and evidence was given to show his good character.

San Francisco despatches report the death there recently, rather suddenly, of Captain A. O. Cooper, master of the Canadian Government Merchant Marine str. Canadian Observer. He is known to many shipping and mercantile men in ports of the Orient as the former chief officer of the Canadian Pacific str. Empress of China. He was also engaged for some time in the coastal service of that company. To him belongs the credit of having commanded the sturdy steamer Princess Ena on her voyage to Vladivostok during the war, and to him also was due the credit of discovering the lost steamer Canadian Importer when she was adrift and helpless on the Pacific. The body was brought on the Canadian Observer (his last command) from San Francisco to Vancouver for interment.

A LECTURER FOR THE ORIENT.

Rev. Dr. Gowen, professor of Oriental languages in the University of Washington, has left for a nine months' tour of China and Japan, during which he will deliver a series of lectures at the universities. Professor Gowen will tour under the auspices of the Institution for International Education (Carnegie Foundation).

SOME AUSTRALIA PASSENGERS.

The Empress of Australia sailed to-day with about 400 passengers, of whom half were in the cabins. In the saloon list was Mr. M. Wittenberg, who sailed on the Empress of Russia for Harbin, but was recalled by telegram at Victoria and is going out again on the Australia. He represents large electrical interests. Mr. J. H. Messervy, of a Buffalo electrical supplies company, also was a passenger. Mr. D. E. Brown, of Vancouver, Mr. J. W. Kelly, of Winnipeg and Major J. Hyndman were among those bound for Japan or China. Mr. W. P. Dennis, of the Libby concern at Chicago, was

booked on the ship, as was Mr. G. F. Tobler, of the famous Wanamaker firm at Philadelphia. Mr. Ellis Hayim was returning to Shanghai. The ship carried a new chief engineer in Mr. D. G. R. Smith, formerly chief engineer on the R. M. S. Empress of Japan.

A HIGH SEAS HONEYMOON.

The initial scenes of "A High Seas Honeymoon," a thrilling trans-Pacific moving picture, were to be "shot" on board the R. M. S. Empress of Australia as she sailed to-day for the Orient, according to Mr. Henry MacRae, film director. Mr. MacRae is a Canadian who has been associated in important capacities with the leading studios in California. His productions include Ralph Connor's works. Mr. MacRae will be in the Orient for five months, having gone there at the request of the King of Siam to make a movie which will be entitled "Sigauhara of Siam." Parts of the story will be filmed in and around Vancouver. For the "high seas" voyage the Empress of Australia, he said, would provide a charming background for most romantic and strategic moments of the scenario. On the other side of the Pacific, Yokohama and Hongkong were to be the stage. Carrying a complete outfit with him and a staff of five assistants, Mr. MacRae promised to project for the entertainment of the Australia's passengers actual pictures showing the early stages.

DONATIONS FOR CHINESE HOSPITAL.

Chinese labourers employed at three Vancouver lumber mills have agreed to contribute one day's pay to the fund which is being raised by their countrymen for the establishment of a hospital in Heung shan.

CHINESE IN CANADA

Obnoxious Poll-tax Going

Vancouver, Feb. 2.

The Chinese Consul-General at Ottawa, who has arrived at Vancouver on his return to his post from Peking, states that the Immigration and Trade Treaty which China is negotiating with Canada provides that China shall not allow labourers to come to Canada, while the Dominion will remove the \$500 poll-tax which the Chinese consider a disgrace.

The trade sections of the Treaty recognize China's need for Canadian wheat and aim at encouraging Canadian merchants in the Orient.—Reuter.

PEKING, Feb. 6.—General Hsieh Yuan-han, the Civil Governor of Kiangsi, yesterday tendered his resignation whereupon local Kiangsi residents demonstrated before the President's Office and the Kuowoyuan (Cabinet Office) urging his retention.—Reuter.

SHANGHAI NEWS

RADIO APPARATUS CONTRABAND

Importation of Sets Forbidden by Customs Regulations: Washington Decisions

A situation, fraught with possible international complications has arisen recently over the sudden widespread interest in radio, telephony and the possibilities of broadcasting throughout China. In order to be able to "listen in" on the messages sent from a broadcasting station a radio set is required. Although it has been found possible for amateurs to manufacture these sets at small cost, nevertheless a certain amount of technical experience is necessary in order to achieve success. Therefore to make the enjoyment of radio programmes a commercial success from the financial standpoint, radio sets, resembling somewhat a small telephone transmission box, have been manufactured in large quantities and sold usually by the company broadcasting the programmes to defray the necessary expenses of engaging artists, musicians, etc.

Radio Sets are classified with Field Telephones and Telegraphs as being contraband articles of war and therefore cannot be imported into China under existing regulations, according to the Commissioner of Customs. Furthermore, Pars. 2 and 3 of Resolution 18 adopted by the Conference on the Limitation of Armament regarding Radio Stations in China states:—

"All radio stations operated within the territory of China by a foreign Government or the Citizens or Subjects thereof, under treaties or concessions of the Government of China shall limit the message sent and received by the terms of the treaties or concessions under which the respective stations are maintained:

"In case there be any radio-station maintained in the territory of China by a foreign government or citizens or subjects thereof without the authority of the Chinese government such station and all the plant, apparatus and material thereof, shall be transferred to and taken over by the Government of China, to be operated under the direction of the Chinese Ministry of Communications upon fair and full compensation to the owners for the value of the installation. As soon as the Chinese Ministry of Communications is prepared to operate the same effectively for the general public benefit."

At the conclusion of the formal resolution the following note is appended:—

"The Chinese Delegation takes this occasion formally to declare that the Chinese Government does not recognize or concede the right of any Foreign Power or of the Nationals thereof to install or operate without its express consent radio stations in Legation grounds Settlement, Concessions, Leased Territories, Railway Areas or other similar areas.

APPEALS TO PEKING.

Mr. McClosky, general manager for China of the Westinghouse Electric International Corporation,

who with the General Electric Company are the parent companies of the Radio Corporation of America, stated last Friday that more than six months ago he had applied for permission through the Chinese Customs to import small radio receiving sets of standard pattern similar to the 300,000 already in use in the United States.

"The opportunities of establishing several large broadcasting stations throughout China have long been apparent," Mr. McClosky said, "but until permission was given to import our radio sets through regular channels we were unable to go ahead with our project. I was informed by Mr. L. A. Lyall, Commissioner of Customs, that under the existing regulations any sets imported would be seized here and held as contraband of war. Mr. Lyall suggested that the only way to regulate the matter would be to obtain a 'hukow' from the Ministry of War at Peking granting the necessary permission."

Mr. McClosky added that further representations had been made through the American Consulate here, which were sent through the U.S. Legation at Peking to the Chinese Ministry of War, and that he hoped that a favourable reply would be forthcoming.

The possibilities of the future development of wireless telephony in China were discussed by Mr. Roy E. De Lay, Shanghai representative of the Kellogg Switchboard Company, who stated that his company were manufacturing a complete line of parts for amateur radio sets, and therefore hoped that the Chinese Government would shortly make a broad interpretation of the ruling classifying radio sets as contraband, and permit the importation of amateur radio apparatus.

THE QUESTION OF CONVERSION.

"It is impossible to convert the radio receiving set, into a transmitting set without changing the wiring of the coils, and many other alterations of a highly technical character," Mr. De Lay said. "The receiving apparatus is intended primarily for the enjoyment of the novice, who is not particularly interested in the mode of operation but in the results attained. In order to simplify the mechanism as far as possible the coils and delicate vacuum or crystal detectors are sealed in a wooden box. Levers for the adjustment of the wave length and the twin receivers attached to a flexible electric cord are the only pieces of mechanism visible."

Mr. De Lay stated that recently two dozen linemen's testing telephones were despatched to his company and the import permit was held up by the Customs authorities until satisfactory proof was furnished that the telephones in question were not for military purposes.

"To my knowledge, ordinary telephones have been on the contraband list for at least three years, Mr. De Lay said." The Government broadly interprets the ruling against them and of course does not exclude their importation."

HONOURS FOR COL. MARR JOHNSON

Decorations from Chinese Government

The Military Governor of Shanghai, General Ho Feng-ling, has received a telegram to the effect that a Presidential Mandate has been issued conferring upon Col. R. Marr Johnson, C.M.G., D.S.O., Commandant of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps, the third class Order of the Wenfu (Literary Tiger).

This Order, of the third class, is designated for award to officers who have attained the rank of Major-General, and the fact that it has been conferred upon Col. Marr Johnson is a tribute to the esteem in which he is generally held. Members of the Volunteers, as well as his many friends outside the Corps, will join in congratulating him upon this well-deserved distinction.

We understand that the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hsu Yuan, is also in receipt of a Mandate announcing that in addition to the Wenfu, Col. Marr Johnson is to be made the recipient of the Chinese Military Medal of the First Class.

NANKING ROAD JEWEL ROBBERY

Valuable Diamond Disappears

A diamond worth \$3,800 and weighing 8.3 carats was stolen from the Central Bazaar, 27 Nanking Road, shortly before noon on Monday.

It is stated that a well dressed Chinese visited the shop last week, saying that he wished to purchase a valuable diamond. The management asked him to call again on Monday, which he did, meanwhile getting into communication with a Russian dealer. In the course of showing the Chinese an assortment of stones the dealer entered into conversation with a foreigner in the shop. No one noticed in the meantime that the prospective Chinese customer had left the shop, but subsequently his absence was noted as well as the fact that the stone was missing.

Mr. Shen Shih-ching, of the Soochow City Court, has been promoted to be Chief Judge of the Shanghai District Court.

Two buffaloes used for ploughing by the Culty Dairy disappeared early on Sunday morning in a rather mystifying manner. The coolies on the premises were neatly locked into their quarters by a marauding party and the animals spirited away without a single trace as to the method of departure. The French police are working to find the stolen animals, and hope to have them back in their proper places soon.

SIR RONALD MACLEAY

British Chamber of Commerce Luncheon

His Majesty's Minister Sir Ronald Macleay was on Monday entertained at lunch at the Shanghai Club by the Committee of the British Chamber of Commerce, the other guests being Mr. Sidney Barton, H.M. Consul-General, Sir Skinner Turner, Rear-Admiral MacLachlan, Judge Peter Grain, Captain Eliot, R.N., Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Mr. C. F. Garstin, Colonel Marr Johnson, Paymaster Commander Green, R.N., Sir Edward Pearce, Mr. Eric Allden, H.M. Minister's Private Secretary, and Messrs. John Prentice, John Johnstone, H. G. Simms and W. B. Kennett.

The Chairman, Mr. A. W. Burkill, proposed the Minister's health and, in doing so, dealt with the present situation of affairs in China and the views of British merchants in regard to them. He dealt also with the question of the expenditure of the Boxer Indemnity. Sir Ronald Macleay, in replying, expressed his pleasure at being back in China and at meeting old friends. He congratulated the Chambers of Commerce on the work which they were doing, emphasizing the value to the British Government of being able to obtain responsible collective expressions of opinion. After commenting on the views expressed by Mr. Burkill on the present situation in China he assured him that the Associated Chambers' opinions in regard to the Boxer Indemnity would meet with the fullest consideration.

Luncheon with the China Association

Sir Ronald Macleay was entertained at tiffin at the Shanghai Club on Tuesday by the China Association, the chairman, Mr. E. F. Mackay, presiding and Mr. A. C. Clear occupying the vice-chair. In addition to the British Minister, Admiral C. MacLachlan, Sir Skinner Turner, Mr. Sidney Barton, H.M. Consul-General, Judge Peter Grain, Mr. H. G. Simms, Chairman of the Council, Mr. H. J. Brett, Commercial Counsellor, and Mr. E. Allden (Sir Ronald's Secretary), attended as guests, and members of the Association present were:—Sir Edward Pearce, Mr. D. McNeill, Mr. C. G. Humphrys, Mr. C. G. S. Mackie, Mr. O. M. Green, Mr. C. J. Scott, Mr. John Johnstone, Mr. F. W. Potter and Mr. N. H. Langley-Smith.

In proposing Sir Ronald's health, Mr. Mackay gave a *résumé* of the many questions in which the Association is interested, and Sir Ronald Macleay, in reply, gave expression to some valuable views as to the manner in which the present problems of China may be approached, with special reference to the part that Chinese business men

and bankers must play in the rehabilitation of their country.

On Tuesday a reception was given in Mr. Barton's house when local consular and other officials, British naval officers and officers of the British units of the S.V.C. were present. There was a very large attendance, as many as possible availing themselves of the opportunity to meet the new Minister.

SHANGHAI CATTLE SHOW

Interesting Exhibition at the French Municipal Abattoirs

Although the new French Municipal Council Abattoir has for some time been functioning, the formal opening did not take place until Monday morning because of lack of proper facilities for slaughter of cattle. In addition to the usual manner of celebrating such affairs, considerable interest was awakened in the Chinese population through the inclusion of a stock and cattle show. The local purveyors of animals ultimately to be furnished to this establishment responded very enthusiastically and made merry, bringing to the abattoir 70 head of cattle, 10 calves, 100 sheep, 50 goats, 20 buffaloes, and 50 pigs, besides which there were on exhibit stock from the farm of Mr. Henry Morris, Roselawn Dairy, Culty Dairy, and Inshallah Dairy.

The contesting parties were divided into groups, for the reason that the Chinese producers of native bred stock felt that they could not fairly compete with the foreign bred animals, so it was decided that native bred stock should not be judged and criticized as against the foreign bred, but separate ratings be apportioned. With this division agreed upon the show proved to be an harmonious success, for the intense rivalry among the Chinese suffered not in the least in that they competed only among their own brands. On the other hand the fact that the foreign bred animals made such a good showing as compared with others, impressed upon the owners of the latter that theirs were not the best that could be produced, which it is expected will cause them to profit from the example set. The huge carcasses of slaughtered foreign cattle on exhibit, contrasted with the native, must surely have illustrated beyond the pale of the most dense, the vital superiority of European and American stock.

The most educational display was perhaps that of the Chen Shin Butchery who with their different grades of native cattle, demonstrated to the uninstructed why some native beef is tough and why some is the most tender. Firstly their Tanyang brand was of small boned, lean variety with excellent tasting flesh; then came the Nanking, Ningpo, Hangchow, and Tungchow, which are graded in the order named—that is their

bones become larger, meat stringier, and more fat intermingled with the sinews. A portion of their herd consisted of a hybrid group, being the offspring of a buffalo bull and a cow mother, and are said to make quite good eating beef.

SOME OUTSTANDING ANIMALS.

Of the foreign bred cows perhaps the Roselawn Dairy cross Ayrshire caused the most comment, in the main, we think, because of the manner in which the display was made. A very distinct impression was made on the Chinese visitors, when shown the pure white blanket wrapped over the well groomed, well cleaned and well kept animal. Mr. Henry Morris's exhibit of pigs, one of them of large size though born since November 7, attracted throngs of spectators, as did the newly born suckling midgets. The Culty Dairy Holstein, 1st prize winner, weighing well over 1,400 lb., and the Inshallah Australian boar of more than 350 lb. weight, also drew many favourable comments.

At 11 o'clock the judges began their work, Drs. Pratt and Edgar inspecting the stock in a very thorough manner, and finishing within the hour. After the winners were announced the entire assemblage adjourned for refreshments when among those present were:—M. de la Prade, President of the French Municipal Council, M. Legendre, Secretary of the Council, Mr. W. J. N. Dyer, Vice-Chairman, Capt. Fiori of the French Police, M. Grosbois, French Municipal School, Mr. Henry Morris, Mr. M. Speelman, Dr. J. Edgar, Dr. S. W. Pratt, Mr. R. U. Hummel and Capt. Grant.

In a short informal speech M. de la Prade welcomed the many guests, spoke highly of the exhibits and requested the gathering to drink to the continued success of the Municipal Abattoir, hoping next year to welcome them to a larger and better exhibition.

Sir Ernest Wilton

Shanghai, Feb. 2.

In the recent New Year Honours Sir Ernest C. C. Wilton, who succeeds Sir Reginald Gamble as Associate Chief of the Salt Gabelle, was awarded a K. C. M. G.—Reuter.

Dr. Kiang Kang-fu, former professor at the University of California, will, states the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce," be appointed Chinese Commissioner, and later Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, to the Soviet Government of Russia at Moscow. Dr. Kiang, who visited Moscow some months ago and is alleged to have strong Bolshevik or Radical tendencies, has caused not a little criticism in connexion with his numerous lectures. The above appointment surely pre-supposes recognition of the Soviet by China, which has not happened yet.

BRITISH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Other National Chambers to Join in Annual Conference: Many Important Subjects

Preparations for the annual Conference in Shanghai of the Associated British Chambers of Commerce are now well advanced. The Conference is to take place this year on February 21 to 23, immediately after the China New Year holidays, and, as heretofore, through the courtesy of his Honour Sir Skinner Turner, will be held in the British Supreme Court. H. M. Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. R. H. Clive, C.M.G., will attend, and amongst other official visitors expected are Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., H. M. Consul-General, Honorary President of the Shanghai Chamber; Mr. H. H. Fox, C.M.G., H. M. Commercial Counsellor of Legation, Honorary Vice-President; Mr. H. J. Brett, H. M. Commercial Secretary of Legation; the Australian and Canadian Trade Commissioners; Mr. J. T. Pratt, H. M. Consul-General at Nanking, and others.

The list of representatives from the other Chambers who are members of the Association is not yet complete, but, as far as is known at present, the Peking Chamber will be represented by Mr. S. F. Mayers, of the British & Chinese Corporation, Mr. M. E. Weatherall, of Messrs. Reiss & Co., and Mr. W. H. E. Thomas, manager of the Chartered Bank; the Tientsin Chamber by Mr. E. C. Peters; the Hankow Chamber by Mr. H. K. Peters; the Chefoo Chamber by Mr. William Lyttle; and the Hongkong Chamber by Mr. John Johnstone.

A new departure is to be taken this year in that the other national Chambers of Commerce have been invited to send representatives to the Conference to discuss two questions which are of common interest. One of these is the existing state of disorder in China, and the other the debased condition of the copper currency.

In the resolution on the first subject the Chinese Chamber of Commerce is evincing very great interest and proposes to send not less than four delegates, of whom the Chairman of the Chamber, Mr. Sung Han-chang, manager of the Bank of China, will be one. According to particulars so far received at the offices of the Shanghai British Chamber of Commerce, the representatives of the other national Chambers in Shanghai will be as follows:—American, Messrs. J. H. Dollar and W. A. Burns; Japanese, Messrs. M. Nodaira and M. Shuto; Italian, Chev. C. Fumagalli and Sig. Giachino; French, MM. E. Charlot and M. Chapeaux, the former being Vice-Chairman of the Chamber; General Chamber of Commerce, Sir Edward Pearce.

THE PROPOSED SURTAX.

Other subjects to be discussed are of very considerable practical importance, amongst them be-

ing the question of the proposed 2½ per cent. surtax. As most readers will recollect, this surtax was agreed upon at the Washington Conference, partly—if the text of the Treaty is to be taken as an indication—with a view to preparing the way for the abolition of inland taxation and partly to re-habilitate Chinese finances, which, as all the world knows, are at present in a very parlous state. China's floating debt—that is to say, her unsecured debt—is at the present time somewhere between \$600,000,000 and \$700,000,000, of which \$240,000,000 represent unsecured foreign loans and \$100,000,000 debts owing to foreign firms for goods supplied. China's domestic obligations have also reached a point which threatens disaster to her credit, as was recently shown by the Inspector-General of Customs in a memorandum published in the "North-China Daily News."

The actual proceeds of the surtax are insufficient to secure the whole of this indebtedness, and while this in itself opens up a number of questions, there is also that of the conditions on which the surtax itself should be granted. On this latter point, the Washington Conference clearly stipulated that the Commission to be appointed to consider the matter should be empowered to name the date, the purposes and the conditions on which this additional revenue should be given. It is understood that the Shanghai Chamber has very definite views on this matter and that the whole question has been under discussion with its associated Chambers.

SHIPPING PROBLEMS.

Another question is that of the registration of vessels owned by China Companies. As things stand at present, a vessel belonging to a China Company is not entitled to the limitation of liability provided for by the Merchant Shipping Act. If, for example, a vessel owned by such a Company ran into and sank another at Woosung, her liability would be limited neither in respect of the damage done to cargo nor the loss of life occasioned.

Yet another question of considerable local interest is that of the Shanghai harbour. Readers will remember that, not so very long ago, an international committee of expert engineers issued an elaborate report in which they made recommendations both of a purely engineering character and of an administrative kind. These recommendations were duly discussed by all the national Chambers of Commerce in Shanghai, whose views, as was to be expected, differed in certain important particulars. Later, with a view to reducing these differences to as small a compass as possible, a meeting was held, at which a manageable consensus of opinion was arrived at. To go into the matter in any detail is beyond the scope of this article, but, briefly, it may be stated that the recommendations of the engineers were endorsed within certain very definite limits: that since then no-

thing further has been heard about the report, and that the future needs clarifying. The congested state of the Soochow Creek and the policing of the harbour will also be discussed.

A fourth subject—one which, we believe, is to be raised by the Hongkong Chamber—is that of arbitration awards issued by the London Produce Brokers Association. As things are at present, these awards are issued without any reasons being given for them, so that the unfortunate exporter is no wiser at the end of any trouble than he was at the beginning, and is thus placed in circumstances reminiscent of the Gilbertian punishment of playing billiards with elliptical balls and a twisted cue.

TARIFF RULE 1 AGAIN.

One other very important matter is that of our old friend, Tariff Rule 1, which figured in last year's agenda and was discussed at very great length during the recent revision of the Tariff. The view put forward by the Associated Chambers last year and by the Shanghai Chamber during the revision, namely, that the dutiable basis of *ad valorem* goods should be their c.i.f. cost—that is to say, their landed cost in bond—had the support of a majority of the delegates on the Revision Commission, but not that either of the Japanese or the Chinese, whilst the American delegates also voted against it. It is proposed, accordingly, to take up the matter again, one reason for doing so being the existence of considerable dissatisfaction at the continuance of the practice of adding 20 per cent. to the c.i.f. invoice value of goods imported by retail firms.

THE BOXER INDEMNITY.

A very interesting discussion is likely to be heard on the subject of the Boxer Indemnity, the remission of which has been decided on in principle. The sum of money available is a large one—some £11,000,000—and a variety of different claims on it have to be considered. There is the claim of Hongkong University; there is the possibility of establishing scholarships from that University to Universities in Great Britain; there is the view that a new University should be founded in Central China; there are the claims of British hospitals; and there are the claims of British secondary schools. A very considerable number of these latter, including such important institutions as the Anglo-Chinese College, Tientsin, Griffith John College, Hankow, Wesley College, Wuchang, Medhurst College, Shanghai, Westminster College, Chuanchow, Trinity College, Foochow, and the United Methodist College, Wenchow, are receiving grants made to them from the Associated British Chambers of Commerce fund. These grants have been given for a period of five years and vary in amount, the largest being grants for \$5,000. Most of them have been given for the definite purpose of strengthening the British teaching staff, and of ren-

dering the equipment, generally of a scientific character, more efficient.

The Associated Chambers take the view that the existence of their fund, the information which they have collected from most, if not all, of the secondary schools in China, and the donation of these grants, together constitute the backbone of a practical scheme which is thoroughly deserving of the support which could be given to it from a part of the Boxer Indemnity. In order that the matter may be thoroughly discussed, invitations to attend the Conference have been sent to educational experts such as Sir William Brunyate, Vice-Chancellor of Hongkong University, the principals of the Anglo-Chinese College, Tientsin, Griffith John College and Wesley College, Wuchang, and also to Miss C. I. Lambert, principal of the C.M.S. Girls' School, Foochow. Miss Lambert is a recognized educational authority and, with Professor Roxby of Liverpool University, represented British missionary educational effort on the important Anglo-American Commission which recently surveyed the whole field of education in China.

Subjects which are being raised by the Hankow Chamber include inland water navigation, while the Peking Chamber has sent down a resolution on extraterritoriality.

More general subjects, which have now been tackled for four years in succession, and will presumably go on being tackled until China has a government worthy of the name, are aspects of currency reform other than that of debased copper coinage, and trade mark and copyright questions.

FIGHT WITH ARMED ROBBERS

Stiff Work for the Police

A teashop off Canton Road was the scene of a stiff fight between a raiding party of the Municipal Police and armed robbers on Monday night.

On entering the ground floor of the premises, a suspected nest of armed robbers, five of the inmates at once opened fire on the police. In returning their fire, the police brought down two of their opponents, after which the rest fled. The prisoners, who were armed with a Colt .45 and an automatic pistol, had to be sent to the police hospital, suffering from bullet wounds. They and their confederates are reported to be ex-soldiers from Chihli.

No police casualties were reported.

THE efforts on the part of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce to improve the condition of the Soochow Creek are meeting with the approval of the Civil Governor of Kiangsu, who is sending a delegate to attend a conference on the subject to be held here shortly.

ROAD REPAIRING IN SHANGHAI

Sixty-two Miles of Highway Repaved Within a Year: Necessity for the Work

The question of road repairing in Shanghai has long been a vexing problem both to residents and visitors. Recently it has almost seemed that a road was hardly paved and opened to the public when it was torn up to either install new electric light cables, sewage drains or for some other purpose.

The reason for this continual tearing up and repaving of Shanghai's roadways is largely attributable to the unprecedented building operations which have taken place since the war, and several rather interesting figures on the subject have been secured from Mr. C. Harpur, Deputy Commissioner of Public Works.

There are slightly more than 137 miles of roads in Shanghai, according to Mr. Harpur, which include about 20 miles outside the Settlement. During the past year, it was found necessary to tear up and repave 62.8 miles of roads for one reason or another.

Figures available for 1920-21 show that the number of Chinese houses alone more than doubled, while foreign dwellings and business establishments likewise showed almost a similar increase.

Relief is in sight, however, for it is believed that the necessity for road rebuilding will gradually decrease since with a smaller number of building operations the repairs required on roads will be appreciably diminished.

It is pointed out that Shanghai's population is very congested, there being more than 800,000 inhabitants living within the Settlement limits, and only 137 miles of roads, whereas a like population elsewhere has usually between 300 to 500 miles of roads, which are generally of much greater width than those found here.

RADIUM AT AUCTION

Shanghai auction rooms at intervals provide quite a number of thrills, and another was offered on Wednesday by the thought of bidding for a five millegramme tube of radium, which evidently interested a number of people who do not ordinarily attend public auctions and at noon a good number were present in the saleroom of Messrs. L. Moore & Co., Ltd., when Mr. E. Q. Cooper auctioned the precious item. Much to the disappointment of those who had hoped to see the actual radium, only a small cartridge-like leaden case was displayed and Mr. Cooper said it would be necessary to take the contents on trust, though the same were guaranteed as having belonged to the estate of the late Dr. N. Macleod, whilst Dr. Fearn, the radiologist to the

General Hospital, stated that he had used it successfully.

The small size of the specimen prevented its private sale, for had it been two or three times its size there would have been no difficulty in disposing of it outside. The bidding started at Tls. 200 and crept slowly, Tls. 5 at a time, up to Tls. 250, at which price it was all but sold. Bidding started again, however, and the tube was finally sold to Dr. Chung Pah-yung for Tls. 275.

A gentleman interested stated that he had cabled Home an inquiry as to the value of this amount and received an estimate of £100, so that Dr. Chung secured a real bargain.

A SHANGHAI KOREAN'S FIGHTING END

Shooting Contest with Japanese Police

Details are published in the Chinese press of the activities and death of one Kim Shang-yu, a prominent member of the Korean Independence Party.

Kim, states the report, left Shanghai for his native country some months ago at the instance of the head of his party, and has ever since been active against the Japanese.

On January 12 he is alleged to have thrown a bomb into the police headquarters in Seoul, injuring many people. Some 250 suspects were arrested but none could name the real perpetrator of the crime.

At 5 a.m. on January 17, Japanese police surrounded Kim's home, which was used as headquarters for the Seoul branch of the Independence Party. Five policemen entered the house and found Kim in bed. Hearing them approach he opened fire with an automatic pistol, killing four of the men on the spot. The fifth made good his escape, and Kim climbed on to the roof of the house and began to fire with a brace of pistols. After keeping his enemies at bay he jumped over a neighbouring wall and escaped to a friend's home about 10 li away.

Following his foot-prints in the snow, the police traced him to his friend's home, which they surrounded. Again Kim escaped, but in the morning was again traced by the police, who attempted to arrest him. Pistols were again brought into use, Kim shooting several Japanese and Korean police officers. He kept up the fire until his supply of bullets ran out.

The police called upon him to surrender, but this Kim refused, declaring that he would die rather than surrender. With this, he committed suicide by striking himself over the heart with his pistol.

Kim, states the report, was sentenced to death by the Japanese authorities some time ago but managed to escape to Shanghai. His wife and younger sister died in prison and he is survived by a daughter.

WEDDINGS

H. R. Boyd—Lady Ada Fitzwilliam

The Duke of Leeds gave away his sister, Lady Ada Wentworth-Fitzwilliam, daughter of the ninth Duke of Leeds, and widow of the Hon. William Hugh Spencer Wentworth-Fitzwilliam, at her marriage on December 14 at St. James's, Piccadilly, with Mr. Harry Robert Boyd, C.B.E., of the Home Office. Archdeacon Lambert, rector of the parish, officiated, and Major-General Gerald Boyd, O.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., D.C.M., was best man.

The bride, who was unattended, wore a gown of sapphire blue velvet, with a hat to match, and carried a bouquet of orchids and green leaves. The ushers were Sir George Chrystal (Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Pensions) and Mr. Reeve Wallace, O.B.E., of the Privy Council Office. There was no reception. The bride and bridegroom left for Devonshire, the bride wearing a mauve hat with a black and white knitted coat and skirt.

The relatives present included:—Lord and Lady Francis Godolphin Osborne, brother and sister-in-law of the bride; Lady Alice Egerton, Lady Alexandra Paget, and Lady Constance Hatch, sisters of the bride; Lady Albreda Bourke, Earl Fitzwilliam, Lady Charlotte Wentworth-Fitzwilliam, Lady Theresa Fletcher, the Hon. Sir Charles and Lady Wentworth-Fitzwilliam, Mrs. Vere Chute, sister of the bridegroom, Mrs. Gerald Boyd, sister-in-law, Mr. Eric Fitzwilliam, Mrs. William Foster, and Miss Emily Cavendish.

There were also present in the church:—

Grace Countess of Wemyss, who wore a brown satin picture hat with a brown velvet dress and sable furs; the Dowager Countess Granville, the Countess of Powis, in black with a blue toque; Lord Cecil Manners, Lady Victoria Russell, Lady Horridge, Major-General Sir Cecil and Lady Lowther, Sir George Chrystal, Miss Chrystal, Sir Samuel and Lady Power, Sir John Anderson, Sir Edward Troup, Sir Almeric and Lady FitzRoy, Lady Lucas-Tooth, Sir Ernley Blackwell, Lady Addis, Lady (Douglas) Hall, Sir James Agg-Gardner, Lady Sassoon, Sir Ernest Hatch, the Hon. Mrs. Sandbach, the Hon. Mrs. Fitzroy Stanhope, the Hon. Mrs. Chetwynd, the Hon. Mrs. Howitt, the Hon. Mrs. Rimington-Wilson, the Hon. Mrs. Gerard, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Shortt, Mr. W. C. Bridgeman, Mme. Stancioff, Mr. and Mrs. Banatyne, Mrs. J. W. F. Beaumont, Mr. Carew Robinson, Mr. Albert Ball, Captain MacIntyre, Mrs. William Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Parker Ness, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Erskine, Mrs. Adolphus Duncombe, Miss Helen Bower, Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Buckland, Mr. Dillon Lowe, Mr. Gershom Stewart, M.P., Mr. and Mrs. Montague Bell, Captain and Mrs. Cloete, Mrs. Henry Levy, Mrs. James Maclean, Mrs. Alfred Dawes, Mrs. Phipps Hornby, Mrs. Kenyon-Slaney, Mrs. Brass, Mrs.

Rice-Oxley, Mrs. R. Wade, Mrs. Denham Parker, Mrs. Kennedy, Mr. C. Higgins, the Misses Isaac, Lieutenant-Colonel Aubrey Maude, Mr. and Mrs. Lowe, Mrs. Dewar Drury, Miss Gordon, Mr. Pelham Gordon, and Mrs. Allen.—“The Times.”

Knott—Macleod

The wedding took place at Bangkok on January 11 of Mr. Thomas Macfarlane Knott, of the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank staff, the only son of the late Inspector-General Thomas Henry Knott, R.N., of Southsea, to Miss Ray Gordon Macleod, the youngest daughter of the late Rev. Gordon Macleod of Edinburgh.

Sarjeant—Chasty

A wedding of interest to many Shanghai people took place on Wednesday afternoon when Miss Matilda Chasty became the bride of Mr. R. L. Sarjeant, of the engineering department of the Asiatic Petroleum Co. The ceremony, which was performed by the Very Rev. C. J. F. Symons, took place at Holy Trinity Cathedral, which was beautifully decorated in green and white. The bride, who was given away by Mr. M. W. Marples, wore mole chiffon velvet, with georgette panels trimmed with steel beads, grey shoes and stockings, a mole panne velvet hat, and she carried a bouquet of carnations and fribias.

The matron of honour, Mrs. K. Hooley, wore mauve crêpe with a mauve panne velvet and silver hat and carried sweet peas. Miss Eva Lee, the bridesmaid, wore yellow satin crêpe, with a rust-red flower at the waist, a black picture hat and carried sweet peas.

The groom, who is Captain of the Shanghai Rowing Club, was accompanied by Mr. C. R. Cartwright, his best man, and the ushers were Messrs. A. W. Stubbs, E. V. Fetherstonhaugh, G. W. M. Snow, and H. E. Middleton.

The reception, held at 633 Avenue Foch, from four to six, was attended by a large number of friends and many gifts were tastefully arranged, among them a silver tea service, kettle and tray from the staff of the A. P. C. and a canteen and silver server from the Rowing Club. The bride's gift to the groom was a gold wrist watch and the groom's gift to the bride a silver dressing table set.

The bride's going away dress was a blue gabardine with French wool embroidery, with a large black panne velvet hat trimmed with a green ostrich feather. The honeymoon will be spent house-boating about Hangchow and vicinity.

Tolson—Faurot

Another and very beautiful wedding on Wednesday was solemnized by the Very Rev. C. J. F. Symons at Holy Trinity Cathedral when Miss Julia Belle Faurot was wedded to Mr. Gustave Igard Tolson. Miss Faurot is the daughter of Mr. and

Mrs. Henry Faurot of Chicago, and Mr. Tolson, who is the manager of the cotton department in the Robert Dollar Company, is the son of Mrs. Jeanne Dutton Tolson of New Orleans.

The Cathedral was beautifully decorated with ferns, white spirea and primola and well filled with the friends of this popular young couple. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore ivory satin, garnished with rare old family lace, a coronet veil trimmed with seed pearls, and carried a sheaf of white lilies. Mrs. Harold Essex Reynell, the matron of honour, wore one of the new shades of golden brown silk trimmed with kolinsky, with a brown hat to match. Little Eugenie Reynell made a very picturesque flower girl in cherry velvet, with hat to correspond. The best man was Mr. J. H. Liddell and the ushers Messrs. George Faurot, J. C. Greig, F. A. Pollock, R. Gordon, and L. R. Andrews. The reception, which was attended by a large number of friends, was held at the residence of Mrs. John Liddell, 148 Bubbling Well Road, immediately after the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. Tolson will be at home after March 1 at 548 Rue Ratard.

TOWN HALL BOXING

A much larger number of sportsmen turned up at the Town Hall on Wednesday for the second evening of boxing and wrestling in aid of the Russian Refugees Fund and were highly satisfied with all the events.

The first half of the programme was devoted to boxing. Stoker Phillips, H. M. S. Clockchafer beat J. Johanssen (S.A.B.C.).

Jesu (S.A.B.C.), beat Seaman Atkinson.

The star event of the evening was a ten round contest between Carlson (S.A.B.C.), 135 lb., and Baby Siemssen (S.A.B.C.), 135 lb. In this there was good real fighting all through, the final result being a draw.

The second half of the programme started with Martinoff in feats of strength, including breaking a dollar in half, this was put up for auction by Mr. Parkes and fetched \$40. In the wrestling Burmister (Esthonia) beat Vassilief (Russia); Bauman (Sweden), beat Sorokin (Russia); Martinoff and Pogello fought the full time but neither succeeded in throwing his opponent.

Prizes were distributed by Capt. E. I. M. Barrett, J. Johanssen won the trophy presented by Mr. C. E. Shepherd, Hertzberg twins, trophies presented by Mr. Woods. Stoker Phillips, trophy presented by Mr. Woods, Jesu, trophy presented by Mr. Woods, Siemssen, Mr. Jack Spunt's trophy. Carlson, special prize presented by Mr. Glemby. J. Johanssen, special prize presented by Eng.-Comm. Harvey.

SHANGHAI'S WATER SUPPLY

Mr. C. D. Pearson's Address on Purification Systems: Some Exceptional Difficulties

In a paper read before the Engineering Society of China, on Tuesday, Mr. C. D. Pearson described the methods adopted and the problems encountered in the purification of water for public supplies, more especially where, as in Shanghai, a turbid and highly polluted river water has to be dealt with. The Huangpu, he said, differs from almost all otherwise similar sources of supply in being tidal, the tides causing a considerable hourly variation in the amount and nature of the sediment in suspension in the water. In addition, the river is subjected to considerable pollution and to large temperature variations.

Mr. Pearson pointed out that, although a less polluted water is obtainable from lakes situated within 50 miles of Shanghai, the cost of conveying the water and possible political difficulties would render such a source unsuitable. With modern purification methods efficiently controlled, the water engineer is able to render hygienically safe a water of very poor quality. Huangpu water is fortunately free from abnormal quantities of dissolved impurities, the hardness is low—a satisfactory feature from the domestic and industrial standpoint—and, although the river is tidal, the salt content has not, in the last 20 years, been sufficiently high to cause anxiety.

The water purification works in Shanghai are consequently employed in removing suspended impurities, consisting of sediment, colloidal matter, microscopic plant life and bacteria. The paper described the methods adopted to carry out the removal of suspended impurities, viz., storage, settlement, filtration and sterilization.

SHANGHAI RESTRICTIONS.

Storage, which Sir Alexander Houston has proved with Thames water is capable of rendering a polluted water satisfactory, is unfortunately not practicable in Shanghai, the cost of land and of storage reservoirs of sufficient size to deal with Shanghai's requirements being prohibitive. The removal of suspended impurities is partially accomplished by settlement, the water to be purified being pumped into tanks, allowed to remain quiescent therein for the necessary period and being then drawn off and passed to the filters. Alternatively, the water is passed continuously through the settling basins at such velocities as will permit of the desired clarification being obtained. Settlement may be accelerated and the effluent improved by the addition of a coagulant, such as alum, a method which has been used by the Chinese for centuries.

In Shanghai both "intermittent" and "continuous" settling tanks, with and without a coagulant, are

employed. Partial clarification is also effected by passing the raw water through pre-filters and this system has been adopted in the French Concession. After partial clarification has been obtained by settlement or pre-filtration, it is necessary to effect complete clarification by passing the water through filters. In almost all types of filters, sand and gravel are the media employed, and the efficiency of the filter is dependent upon the size and uniformity of the sand grains, thickness of the bed, nature and temperature of the water, amount and nature of the coagulant used, if any, and the rate of flow.

The original type of filter is the English or slow sand. This type usually consists of large basins in which the water is passed downwards through a sand layer of suitable thickness, the clarified water being drawn off through under-drains laid on the bottom. The bed is cleaned by removing the upper layer when the rate of flow has been reduced through the clogging of the upper layer. After cleaning, the bed is "ripiped" by allowing water to pass through it to waste and is again put into commission. This cleaning is repeated as necessary, until the thickness of the sand is so reduced that the relaying of the bed with clean sand is required.

FILTRATION PROCESSES.

With increased cost of land, construction and labour, "rapid" filters have been introduced; these filters are of less area than the slow sand beds, but filter more quickly and, consequently, require more frequent cleaning. This is effected by washing the sand *in situ*, the usual practice being to pass clear water in a reverse direction through the sand. In certain types of rapid filters, compressed air is employed to agitate the sand; in other types, revolving rakes are used. Rapid filters may be either "gravity", i.e., open-topped types, or "pressure" enclosed type: the latter are usually adopted when it is desirable to place the filter on the pressure main. A filter of this type is now at work at Chinkiang.

The process of filtration not only removes sediment but also a considerable number of bacteria, but an additional safeguard to the consumer is now afforded by sterilization. By far the greater number of waterborne bacteria are harmless, but a polluted water may contain bacteria capable of producing disease, chief among which is the typhoid bacillus, and it is the aim of the water engineer to eliminate these. An easily identified group of bacilli known as *Bacillus Coli*, though not in themselves dangerous, are indicative of sewage pollution and the possible presence of pathogenic organisms. It has also been proved that pathogenic organisms are more easily destroyed than those of the *B. Coli* group and, hence, a substantial reduction of the latter means a practical elimination of the former.

METHODS OF STERILIZATION.

Various methods are available for the destruction of bacteria—boiling, which is impracticable on a large

scale; exposure to ultra-violet rays; contact with ozonized air, both of which have presented difficulties when large quantities of water have had to be dealt with; and chlorination. The latter method is that most usually adopted. In Shanghai, sterilization is effected by chlorination, bleaching powder being originally employed, but this has now been replaced by liquid chlorine. The dose employed is extremely small, not exceeding one part in three million. With reliable chlorine control apparatus and skilled supervision, sterilization is an additional safeguard which no modern purification plant should be without.

There is a popular prejudice against putting "chemicals" in water, largely due to ignorance of the fact that natural water usually contains matters as truly chemical as those used in treating water and also that the amounts used are so minute that a consumer would need to drink hundreds of gallons to obtain a medicinal dose. The purification processes now in use in Shanghai give a reduction in bacteria cultivated at 37 degrees Centigrade in 99.83 per cent. and *B. Coli* absent in 100 c.c. in 75 per cent of the samples taken.

The paper was accompanied by diagrams and photographs of the plant employed and various samples were exhibited.

A DISTINGUISHED VISITOR FROM GLASGOW

There will be many in Shanghai, and particularly those from Glasgow, who will be interested to know that, passing through here as surgeon on the str. City of York was Dr. James W. Allen, F.S.C., who has had a distinguished career in his profession, especially in the service of the Glasgow Municipality. He was at one time medical superintendent of the Belvedere Fever Hospital, later on a physician on the staff of the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, and after that physician in charge of the Belleville Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Lanark, also under the Glasgow Corporation.

Dr. Ernest Marsh was at one time in charge of wards at the Belvedere institution under the superintendence of Dr. Allen, and Dr. H. Couper Patrick also worked with him for a time in the Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

The veteran doctor—having graduated in 1869, he must be at least 75 years of age—is no stranger to Shanghai, but it is not the Shanghai he used to know, for he last saw the city when very few of the residents of to-day were here, coming out in 1872. Naturally, he is greatly impressed with the tremendous changes that have taken place since these long ago days.

Mr. Meyrick Hewlett, O.M.G., for six years past British Consul-General in Chengtu, the capital of Chengtu, arrived from Peking on Friday night. He left for England on leave on Tuesday.

A WELL ORGANIZED RUSSIAN CHARITY

Mme. Diederichs' Almost Unaided Work for Orphans: A Cosy Home in Shanghai

Riding along towards the Rubicon on Hungjao Road, after crossing the railway track, one sees to the right, flush with the road, a glistening white Chinese house. This is where Mme. Diederichs has gathered the Russian orphans who lost their parents in Omsk, and for whom she cared in Harbin for two years before coming to Shanghai a little over two months ago. As a representative of the "North-China Daily News" went round to the rear of the house, the windows upstairs suddenly blossomed full of childish faces, eager to see who was visiting them in their out-of-the-way home.

The visitor entered the home through the kitchen, most informally. Here, under the direction of an older Russian woman, a squad of children were cleaning up the room, which seemed well-cared for. Next came the big dining room, bare, but neat, with a pathetic attempt at decoration in the line of dried grasses and pictures cut out of magazines. Across the hall was a sleeping room of the older girls, practically unfurnished except for the narrow couch beds, which ran round the walls, all made with the greatest of care. Each girl's belongings were stowed away in wooden boxes or wicker cases beneath her bed and there was not an article out of place in any of the rooms visited, although this was an unexpected call. Curtains had been placed at the windows and every effort made for refinement and beauty so far as their limited resources went. At the head of almost every bed hung a tiny *ikon*, or sacred picture, and some of the antique brass crosses of the Greek Church hung on the walls.

Upstairs, the sleeping apartments were similar, the most interesting being, of course, the youngsters' quarters, where the babies are gathered. Childish treasures and souvenirs were preserved with touching care. The ages of the orphans range from three years to 18, and there are three small boys, brothers of the older girls, who are allowed to remain because they have no other relatives. While in Harbin, Mme. Diederichs endeavoured to find the relatives of the children in her care and wherever they were able to care for them the children were sent to them. Most of those who remain have neither father nor mother and are ignorant of the whereabouts of any relatives.

In the hall upstairs a miniature chapel has been arranged, with the precious *ikons* which are always the most cherished possessions of devout Russians, and are carried with them through all their wanderings. In an alcove screened by curtains, an altar has

been arranged and the Russian priest holds services here each Sunday after the service at the Russian Church in Hongkew.

COMFORT AND CHEERFULNESS.

A more marked contrast than the cadet barracks in Jessfield Road and this orphanage could hardly be imagined, but it must be remembered that there are only 32 children, with five older women caring for them, so that the relative sizes of the two refugee camps must be taken into consideration. The general impression received here was one of comfort and cheer and the atmosphere given by that favourite expression, "the woman's touch." One is certain that, no matter what their deprivations, these girls will never lose their birthright of womanliness and training in housewifely virtues so long as they remain under the self-sacrificing care of Mme. Diederichs and her helpers.

School for the different classes is held during the mornings and some of the older girls have classes in the evenings, about five or six hours altogether. In the afternoon, different groups of girls are assigned to various duties about the house, under the supervision of the directors. Their meals are very meagre. They depend mostly on soup, and rarely have meat, just boiled rice or grain, with white bread and tea, being the only additions to this diet. On the afternoon of the visit the new baker had failed to find the house and the children had had nothing but soup since breakfast. A *contretemps* like this might happen in any house, but its significance was shown by the fact that they had no substitute for bread, such as potatoes, and that there was not enough money in the house to send out to the village for bread. They would prefer Russian black bread to white, but, as brown flour is more expensive than white, they have not felt that they could afford to buy it and hence are denied the additional nourishment which they should have. Here again the difference between the feminine and masculine management is apparent. The boys have no benches to sit on, nor do they have their meals served in what we should call civilized style, but they probably do have more nourishment.

A PHILANTHROPIC WORK.

Mme. Diederichs has been caring for the children at her own expense, aided by contributions from those interested. She makes no direct appeals for aid, being confident that the need for the work will bring adequate response. It is her hope to give these girls a thorough education and to fit them to take their place as useful citizens of the world. Their needs, while bravely concealed, are apparent to one who can note indications of under-nourishment and it is hoped that the real sustaining black bread may be added to their menu, as well as meat. They have enough clothes for the present, although some are very poorly shod. They

have a change of linen, and some towels, although their equipment is scanty. They have very little coal or other fuel, and as the supplies of food which they brought with them from Harbin are now exhausted, their living expenses will be greatly augmented. They have text books for their school, but no copy books, paper, or blackboards, and only a few pencils.

It may be added that none of these children came with Admiral Stark, the only refugees from the ships being a family of four, living in one of the out-houses and supported by the son, who has found employment as a chauffeur.

It is Mme. Diederichs' ideal to make the orphanage self-supporting as soon as possible. She never requests aid, but would be glad if work could be provided for the girls. They are able to do plain sewing and mending, such as making underwear and children's clothes and embroidery. If material in large quantities were given to the school, it would be possible to make a set of uniforms for the girls, as Mme. Diederichs would like to have them all dressed alike.

OBITUARY

Mr. K. Mukakata

We regret to record the death which took place in the Shinozaki Hospital, Boone Road, on Saturday evening, at the age of 62, of Mr. Kotaro Mukakata, general manager of the Eastern News Agency. Mrs. Mukakata arrived here from Japan a week ago and was with her husband to the end. The body was cremated on Monday and the remains will be sent to Japan for burial. Deceased, who had spent 33 years in China, where he travelled extensively, was decorated by H.I.M. the Emperor of Japan some time ago with the Fourth Class Order of Merit, and it is understood that a posthumous rank will be conferred upon him within the next few days.

Tokio, Feb. 6.

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, upon receipt of the news that Mr. Kotaro Munakata, managing director of the Eastern News Agency, who died in Shanghai on Saturday last, was seriously ill, was pleased to grant him the Fifth Court Rank and at the same time to confer upon him the Third Class of the Order of the Sacred Treasure.—Eastern News Agency.

AFTER spending two days in Shanghai, during which they were entertained by the local organization, the Islam Temple Shriners from San Francisco left last Friday morning on the Pacific Mail str. President Wilson for Hongkong, their ultimate destination being Manila. They will stage a ceremonial there, after which they are to return to the Settlement on February 16, to hold a similar function here.

PROGRESS OF EDUCATION

Interesting Address at Conference of E. C. C. E. A.

The opening session of the conference of the East China Christian Educational Association took place in the Union Church Hall on Wednesday afternoon, the Rev. W. B. Nance, president of the association, being in the chair.

Addresses were given by Dr. Fong F. Sec, Vice-President of the association, Dr. F. D. Gamewell, general secretary of the Christian Educational Association of China, and the Rev. K. T. Chung, the latter bringing to those present a message from the Christian National Council of China, of which he is acting general secretary.

The Rev. E. H. Cressy, general secretary of the E.C.C.A.A., then outlined the new programme inaugurated in the Association. He referred to the appointment of a general secretary, the budget, study of the field, and various other problems faced.

In a lengthy address Prof. P. W. Kuo, president of the Shanghai College of Commerce and the National Southeastern University, who represented the Kiangsu Educational Association, outlined the educational systems existing in China at the present time, and mentioned the progress that had been made during the past few years. The rapid advance of the primary school system was particularly to be noted. The middle schools had made very little, if any, progress, in fact middle schools were the weakest. On paper, said Dr. Kuo, higher education, i.e., colleges and universities had made large plans towards progress. These, however, were only partially developed. Vocational education was gaining headway, progress was noted in scientific education, and the education of women was beginning a new era. A great change was before their very eyes, he stated. The Sin-wen-hua (New Civilization) movement was growing very rapidly. This movement enthusiastically welcomed new ideas from the West, but at the same time renewed the study of old Chinese civilization.

It was necessary, thought Dr. Kuo, for Christian educators to keep in touch with the general trend of education and with various educational movements in China. Missionaries engaged in educational work, he suggested, should co-operate in the education of the young and in the laying of the corner stone for the Republic of China, which, he thought, was a very noble task. (Applause).

The chairman announced that Dr. F. D. Gamewell, Miss M. L. White, and Prof. J. Anderson had been elected as members of the nominating committee, and Dr. P. W. Kuo, Miss C. A. Fullerton, and the Rev. J. W. Crofoot members of the committee on resolutions.

Following a short business session, tea was served by the ladies of the Union Church.

Scheme for Six-Year Middle School Adopted

The sessions of the East China Christian Educational Association were continued on Thursday at the Union Church Hall, Dr. Fong F. Sec presiding in the morning and the Rev. Dr. W. B. Nance in the afternoon.

The Rev. E. H. Cressy, reporting on the reorganization of the Association, said that the major portion of a budget of \$6,000, voted upon last year, had already been pledged and it was hoped to secure the remaining portion before the end of the present sessions.

A significant factor of the morning session was the immediate adoption of the plan for a six-year middle school, which plan had been adopted by the Chinese Government. Prof. S. G. Brinkley, of Soochow University, presented the report of the committee, and Prof. E. J. Anderson, of Shanghai College, outlined the objects of the six-year course in America. Prof. Chu Ching-lung, of Peking Government University, representing the Kiangsu Educational Association, made a statement as to the government point of view and what is being done by the government. Prof. Chu's participation in the discussion following was probably a precedent. Mr. Loh Z. Ying, principal of the Shanghai College Middle School, discussed the question of education and the missions. The Rev. H. A. McNulty, of Soochow Academy, made a statement, on behalf of the Board, concerning the budget.

The afternoon's session included a report of the committee on religious education, by Prof. W. F. Hummel, of the University of Nan-king; an address on compulsory religious exercises and government recognition, by the Rev. E. H. Cressy, chairman of the national committee on government relations; an address by Miss M. H. Bailey, of St. Mary's Hall, on continuation work after pupils leave school; and discussion on life work problems, "The Ministry" being led by Mr. M. Gardner Tewksbury, secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement, and "Medicine" by Dr. J. C. McCracken, dean of the St. John's University Medical School.

Miss Bailey reported on the work which she had been engaged in to keep in touch with graduates and former students of St. Mary's Hall, and in finding opportunities for them to render various forms of service. Clubs, said Miss Bailey, have been organized, students visit the sick, and small libraries have been established to provide reading matter.

Dr. McCracken told those present that students who wished to become doctors should make their decision by the time they leave middle school, otherwise it will be too late: it would be a waste of time if the course were to be changed half way.

Mr. Cressy pointed out that missionary schools should not only do their own work but they should find a place in the general scheme

RUSSIAN CHURCH CHOIR

Concert of Sacred Music

The members of the Russian Church Choir gave a programme of sacred music on Saturday night, in an admirable spirit of self-help, and it was a pity that the community as a whole did not support them. The members of the choir received all the encouragement that applause can give, as soon as it was generally realized that applause was not out of place for a religious concert, and for this reason it was perhaps better that the hall rather than the church in Soochow Road had been chosen. Moreover, the lack of an ecclesiastical setting helped to show how competent the choir was to provide an atmosphere of worship without organ or any external aid.

Maestro P. Selivanoff had his choir marvellously in hand. Packed as closely as might be, partly because they were so short of musical copy, the result was unified as if the singers had been the pipes of an organ. Twelve choruses were rendered, one after the other without any relief, works by some half a dozen composers but none of them straying beyond the type of ecclesiastical orthodoxy, for the Russian Church is still at home in the convolutions of the Byzantine shell. Two of the pieces that moved the audience most were "The Cherubim's Song" by G. S. Bortnyansky and "We praise, we thank Thee" by P. J. Tchaikowsky, in which the softening tones spreading to a final sustained vibrating chord were truly impressive.

The sopranos would have gained advantage from an infusion of younger, fresher voices. There was no lack of power, but it tended to hardness. The men's voices on the other hand were of that resonant kind that seems almost peculiar to Russia, and rich effects were gained from deepening chromatic passages for the basses. No other choir of 18 voices, it is safe to say, unless it were a Welsh one, could have treated us to music so artistically sincere and vocally satisfying.

RESIDENTS in the Dixwell Road district will be pleased to learn that Gen. Ho Feng-ling, Military Governor of Shanghai and Sungkiang, has issued instructions to the Director of Public Works and Taxes in Chapei to take steps in connexion with the drainage of certain parts of Chinese territory, in that vicinity which are in a very insanitary state. His instructions deal with the filling in of the existing filthy gutters, and with the construction of more passage-ways between Dixwell Road and North Szechuen Road, to the north of Kashing Road.

of Chinese education, and that their contributions be limited not only to what they can teach their own students but that they should develop relations which would enable them to make an educational and spiritual contribution to China as a whole.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE MENACE TO EXTRATERRITORIALITY.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—From a perusal of the cables from Europe, and the news from various parts of China it appears that efforts for the abolition of extraterritoriality are in no wise abating, but whether they will result in progress of the movement, or lead to its "advancing backwards" (to use an Irishism), it is not easy to predict. There are so many wheels within wheels in Chinese politics, and one has been so often surprised at the Chinese getting their own way in matters in which it was thought that they could not possibly be successful, that it is almost impossible any longer to be surprised at anything.

It is generally the unexpected that happens, but will it be possible for men of integrity, intelligence and judgment to recommend that proper protection should be withdrawn from foreigners, and that we should be left to the tender mercies of a people to whom torture is a pastime and bribery of judges is rife even in dealing with their own people. In a misleading telegram from the Asiatic News Agency, it is stated that "three Japanese jurists and lawyers of international fame" have been in Taiyuanfu inspecting all courts, prisons, police-stations, educational institutions and industrial works, and that they "expressed full satisfaction with the judicial and educational system of Shansi, and are of opinion that it will not be difficult for China to obtain her object of doing away with the objectionable foreign Consular jurisdiction."

These gentlemen, who seem to make a hobby of investigation, seeing that they "are not envoys of the Government," are also alleged to have visited some Yangtze provinces, and further stated that "as Japan suffered similar foreign humiliation previously, it is the sincere desire of the Japanese people to render material assistance to their nearest neighbours, in getting rid of extra-territoriality."

It is noticeable, by the way, that the names of these "jurists and lawyers of international fame" are not mentioned! If indeed they exist, they are champion "leg-pullers," but their expression of sympathy with the Chinese on account of "foreign humiliation" is considerably discounted by the fact that the Japanese are exceptionally well represented in "objectionable consulates," and are taking no immediate steps to remove the horrible "humiliation."

Such paragraphs are excellent provender for the *gobe-mouches* who comprise the majority of the readers of the "yellow press," but really one wearies of the reitera-

tion of such expressions as "foreign humiliation," "losing face," "a slur on the national prestige" *et hoc genus omne*. It is certain that as soon as the Chinese prove themselves capable of self-government, and officials cease "annexing" public funds, and refrain from stealing the sums subscribed by the hated foreigner for the relief of their starving millions, and when they pay their school-teachers and soldiers, and make a few other little improvements, other nations will hasten to show them all the respect to which they would then be entitled!

There is one assertion however, which is particularly tiresome, namely that "their word is as good as their bond." Possibly this parrot cry was originated by some humourist, for their word is literally "quite as good as their bond," both being equally worthless. To give only two illustrations of this;—what about the orders for railway and other materials which have been given to foreign firms, by high officials who, having extracted their "squeeze" in advance, failed to see to the fulfilment of the contracts, and what about those firms which were ruined or impoverished by importing goods for those honourable merchants who refused to take delivery or pay for them, because forsooth, the rate of exchange was against them? The Chinese evidently do not consider that they "lose face" by such contemptible and dirty dealings. The perpetual talk of "losing face" is only another name for petty childish vanity, and has nothing to do with honour as we know it. As to the investigation of the Chinese judicial system, which is to be made in accordance with the resolutions of the Washington Conference, the ordinary hard-headed business man who is acquainted with the wily Celestial, can have but one opinion.

Men of integrity, intelligence and high position, (such as it may be presumed will be selected by their Governments to act on the Investigation Committee), are proverbially gullible, and have not, as a rule, sufficient worldly experience to detect when they are being made dupes of. One can imagine the farce of the inspection of the Courts of "Justice," prisons etc. How beautifully rehearsed would be the cases brought up for hearing for their benefit, and what magnanimity and justice tempered with mercy would flow from the judicial fountains! How well prepared would the prison officials be for the "surprise" visits of the foreign dignitaries and how almost gratefully would the unprepared (?) criminals speak of the treatment they received!

If it is really considered worth while to make investigations, when daily occurrences prove the dangers of abolishing extra-territoriality, let those entrusted with the work, be not only men above suspicion, but well-experienced with the Chinese, and their visits made incognito.

The attitude of the Chinese in the Coltman case, and their

endeavours to justify that brutal murder, should be a salutary lesson to the Powers. Abolish extraterritoriality! Gentle reader, would you like to be left to the tender mercies of these gentlemen of the Far East?

I am, etc.,

FIAT JUSTITIA.

Shanghai, Feb. 1, 1923.

VLADIVOSTOK.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The letter of "P.J.B." appearing in your issue of January 31, if read in conjunction with the two other communications signed "P.J.B." which you published on January 19 and 25, makes it evident that this writer is a propagandist on behalf of the ancient Russian régime, which, of course, he has a perfect right to be. This circumstance, however, should be known in order that the views he expresses may be judged with a proper sense of proportion. My letter in which the importance of Mr. A. W. Allen's observations and deductions as to present conditions at Vladivostok was suggested, was intended as a warning to Shanghai against the danger of supinely allowing this place to be turned into a dumping spot for refugees, and I have no hesitation in re-iterating this warning.

No question whatever is involved of human sympathy for children, whether they be Russian cadets from Tsarist Academies, or Chinese urchins from Shanghai slums.

What is immediately involved, I think, is the question whether a Russian reactionary officer, Admiral Stark, is to be permitted to foist his responsibilities upon Shanghai in the matter of these hundreds of boys whom he shipped away from their own school in Vladivostok and dumped on Shanghai, and did not have the grace to leave one of his ships here in which we could send them back to their own country.

And further, whether the ineptitude of Admiral Stark is to be copied with still more ineptitude on the part of Shanghai itself by ignoring the obvious proximity of Vladivostok as the proper place for these lads to be returned to?

At the risk of being called cruel and heartless, I distinctly suggest that Shanghai is not the place for the military cadets of Omsk, Habarovsk, Siberia and elsewhere to permanently reside and receive their education. They were installed in school at Vladivostok from which they were removed through the folly of their elders, who rashly put them to quite unnecessary perils and hardships on the mendicant armada of Admiral Stark.

In the several articles appearing these last few days in the local press concerning them and their former conditions, it has been stated that:—

"the schools had twice attempted to live in Bolshevik Russia but getting along with the authorities in each case was impossible."

This failure to "get along with the authorities" can hardly have been through any fault of the boys themselves, but reflects, possibly, upon those who were in charge of them.

And, since we know these boys have been removed from safe and sure surroundings at Vladivostok and put to perils and hardships which were quite unnecessary, it becomes a fair question to ask whether the people in charge of them are really fit for this responsibility?

Naturally, the Soviet authorities are hardly likely to tolerate a lot of boys being educated on the lines of a former "Government Imperial Military Training School," and would probably dismiss the present teachers, replacing them by others who will train these boys to become useful members of the "New Russia" that is ahead instead of the "Imperial officer" type which is of the past. If Shanghai were to explore this line of thought it would possibly elucidate the real reason why Admiral Stark and his hangers-on brought these boys here. That is why I have suggested that the Council might send a trusted official to Vladivostok to ascertain the real facts of the case. I repeat this suggestion. It is significant that some of these boys' schoolmates and their teachers who did not wish to undergo the sea voyage are still at Vladivostok. What of them? It would be easy to ascertain whether the authorities have put them all to a dreadful death—as "P.J.B." would wish us to suppose, perhaps.)—or, as is most highly probable, the lads left behind there are very much better off both as regards food, clothing, lodging, and teaching, than the big bunch who have been dumped upon Shanghai!

I do not think that Shanghai is under any obligation whatever to pay the piper for the tune which has been called by Russian reactionary officers and sympathizers.

The Russian authorities at Vladivostok represent Russia, and are Russia, so far as we are concerned, and if it be found that they are quite willing to shoulder their responsibilities in this matter of looking after these boys, is it not better, in every way, that the lads should go back to their own country and be turned into useful citizens who will eventually help to build up the "New Russia" instead of imbibing all this "Imperial" stuff which is utterly effete, and, happily, as dead as mutton?

It may not be for their present teachers' interests that the lads should return to Vladivostok, but it certainly seems to the boys' interests, not to mention Shanghai, and that is the more important.

The expense and time involved in the Council sending a responsible and trusted official to Vladivostok will not be very great, and is the direct and most practical way of solving this particular matter and knowing how to deal with the "Russian Refugee" question in the future. Drifting along as we are now doing with ever increasing numbers of destitute Russians being allowed to come into the place sim-

ply means trouble in the end. Japan, America, Great Britain and France do not allow anyone who likes to enter their borders, why should Shanghai? Shanghai has its own troubles, and we do not want to add to them. Let someone be sent to Vladivostok to ascertain the truth, therefore.

I am, etc.,

SHANGHAILANDER.

Shanghai, Feb. 3, 1923.

** We wish to say here that we differ in toto from the spirit of this letter. Further reference to the subject will be found in to-day's leading article.—Ed.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I don't know who may be the author of the letter under the title "Vladivostok." In view of the ironical epithets regarding the White refugees, he is evidently not their friend. But it is difficult to blame him for this, as he is a foreigner. It is almost impossible for a foreigner to be able to discern the truth in the Russian chaos. But in consequence of it, the foreigner is not morally enabled to require repatriation of people who do not want to go back. I don't understand why the author is agitating to the refugee's prejudice. He claims it is for their benefit, but he must prove his claim. The writer recommends sending to Vladivostok an agent for inquiries. But to whom will the agent address himself, to the Soviet's officials, or to the people terrorized by Bolshevism? In both cases we can in advance predict the answer to the inquiries. It is needless to go to Vladivostok for this answer. But, I think, there is one way to obtain the truth. Your correspondent must exchange his passport for a Russian refugee's one. As a Russian refugee he will then go to Vladivostok and try the experiment of the Soviet régime.

I am, etc.

A. YUCHENKO.

Shanghai, Feb. 5, 1923.

HOW THE WHITES FARE IN VLADIVOSTOK.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—With reference to your leading article in this morning's issue and also to "Shanghailanders'" letter.

I am in receipt of a letter dated in Vladivostok on January 24 last and written to me by a foreign consular officer at that port.

He states: "The government here are proscribing all that are suspected of being White. More than 5,000 have been sent to Russia. They are given 48 hours to get ready and are herded in box cars from 35 to 40 not counting the children. They have an iron stove in the car but no fuel, this they must get themselves. They have an allowance of one pound of black bread a day and nothing else.

"People who have been living here for 30 years have to leave their

businesses, houses and everything and be herded into box cars like cattle, and they take from two to three months to get to Russia, where most of them naturally have no resources whatsoever. It is said that some of them have frozen to death in the train in Siberia. The scenes at the station where these trains start are beyond description. One officer who was getting into a box car with his wife and three kids, where there were already 37 grown-ups and I don't know how many children, told me he had left his house in the suburbs open as he could not sell any of his furniture and the cow that they kept for the children's milk was in an outhouse as they could not sell this even for 15 roubles. When he gets to Russia he will have to beg.

"—'"s teacher of Russian, a girl of 18 or 19 had to get up from a sick bed to go and all the money she had was 15 roubles that I gave her. This to last her for three months on the journey, and as she is a complete stranger where she is going you will imagine her condition on arrival especially as she goes alone.

"And all the time the proscription lists are being published daily.

"The best people are arrested and kept in cellars, with no explanation and no accusation and their families and friends are refused not only permission to see them or feed them but they are not told if the prisoner is alive or dead or anything about him. You may imagine the needless anxiety and suffering caused by these methods. A horrible system of hate and suspicion with no thought of the result."

I presume from the tone of "Shanghailanders'" letter that he is responsible for the whole of the Russian refugees, their housing and their feeding, and that he is feeling the burden. Otherwise he would hardly suggest that they be turned out of a country in which they have as much right as he has as long as they obey the laws.

Should he not yet have shouldered this burden it is possibly the thought of having to bear a very minute part of it that occasions his indignation.

I am, etc.,

"IF YOU CAN'T HELP DON'T HINDER."
Shanghai, Feb. 6, 1923.

THE RUSSIAN CADETS.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In considering the plight of the Russian cadets, there is one phase which has not been brought out in the many sympathetic articles that have appeared, but which has a very practical bearing on the problem. These cadets have frequently been referred to as "little boys" and "children." As a matter of fact, a large portion of them are not "little boys;" they are 14, 15, even 16 years old.

Now, in America or England when a bright boy of that age loses the support of his father, he goes

to work as a matter of course. To confine him in a charity school would be as lacking in hard sense as the plot of a college freshman story that the writer once read. The heroine was gifted with a remarkable voice and was offered a high salaried position in a city church. But because her aged mother was destitute and obliged to live in a village poor-house, the heroic girl refused the job and sacrificed her future to devote her young life to living with the mother in the poor-house.

The boys at Jessfield Road are a fine, manly lot. They are well developed physically, keenly intelligent, and the older ones are already in some ways better informed, educated, and generally equipped for the battle of life than the average young boy who goes to work. Their lack of English is a handicap, but they are learning rapidly. Why not organize an employment committee to canvass thoroughly the offices and factories of Shanghai and the outports, with a view to placing some of these boys in positions at once? Others could be sent in small numbers to other countries, perhaps, if openings came up. They are all too young to be cast adrift without friendly supervision, but a "Big Brother" society could be formed, each member to see that the boys assigned to him had proper boarding places, and surroundings, and otherwise to make up as far as possible for their lack of family ties. Or the Y. M. C. A. could attend to this.

The burden of 380 cadets would thus soon lighten to say 200. These 200 cadets would require support and schooling, some for one year, some for two, a few for three, four, or five years. Surely, it would not be too great a tax on this prosperous community to look after them for that diminishing period of time. It would be a terrible commentary on the Settlement if, through our indifference, the young victims of a hard fate were allowed to wander on to further hardships in other lands.

The plan suggested in the "N. C. Daily News" in this morning's able editorial sounds like a very wise one—namely to place the whole matter in the hands of the Municipal Council. They are our "authority" to whom we look to bear our responsibilities, and they have many times cleanly cracked harder nuts than this.

In the meantime, however, while permanent plans are being devised, there is a very simple way in which any kindly disposed person with a home can help. If this very day he or rather she, for this is more a woman's affair—will take the Bubbling Well tram car and ride out to Jessfield Road, there to communicate in her best sign language to the Director of the school, a willingness to house and feed temporarily one or two boys, almost before she has time to reach her home again, the smiling, brave little applicants will be at her door, ready to click their heels in military salute when it is opened to them.

The writer has had two 12-year old Omsk cadets in her home off

and on for a month. They go back and forth to the Jessfield Road school each day, and are as well behaved boys as she ever saw. They are very little trouble and carry cleanliness to an almost painful point. Last night I trespassed on a pathetic little incident. Going in at nine to see if the youngsters were tucked safely in bed, I discovered their close cropped, bullet heads sound asleep on their pillows and spread carefully over the bed their unbleached muslin blouses, epaulettes removed, spotlessly clean but sopping wet. Childish fortitude had washed them and spread them there in the hope that the heat from their own little bodies would dry them before morning.

If one or two hundred homes were opened to the boys the school could become for the time being partially a day school and the funds thus saved used to buy needed equipment.

I am, etc.,
AMERICAN.

Shanghai, Feb. 5, 1923.

JESSFIELD PARK SWIMMING POOL.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—As the head and bread winner of large family living in the Western District, I venture to raise my voice in protest against the decision of the S. M. C. as published on page 42 of to-day's Municipal Gazette, to excise the appropriation of Tls. 20,000 for a swimming pool in the Western District. The idea that many people have, that dwellers in this locality are all rich taipans is quite an erroneous one, and I am sure that there must be many others in a similar position to myself, who have not sufficient influence or funds to become members of the Swimming Club or Rowing Club and who find that the public baths (notice the plural, please) at Hongkew are too far away to send our delicate offsprings or to visit ourselves. During the summer recess especially a pool would prove a great boon to our little ones, but I suggest that the pool should be located nearer to Bubbling Well on a site adjacent to the new school in Yu Yuen Road.

I feel sure that your advocacy of such a pool would be welcomed and strongly supported by many of the residents of this district.

I am, etc.,
FAR WEST.

Shanghai, Feb. 1, 1923.

STANDING TRAMS AND MOTOR-CARS.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Police supervision appears to be conspicuous by its absence in the matter of "Traffic Control" by the police authorities in the French Concession.

It is more an exception than the rule for motor-cars to stop, or slow down, when passengers are board-

ing or leaving the tram-cars at the various tram-stops.

Several times within the last fortnight, dangerous accidents have only been avoided by considerable "gymnastic efforts" on the part of the unfortunate tramway passenger.

Time and time again, I have witnessed motor-cars scattering groups of people who had just alighted from the cars.

It is undeniably unfair to force passengers to scramble out of the way of motor-cars driven deliberately at a crowd, as appears to be done at times, and it is a positive danger to schoolchildren, and those who are no longer young nor active, and who by no fault of their own, are subjected to risks which in my opinion, could and should be made impossible by adequate and systematic supervision.

I am, etc.,
NAUTICUS.

Shanghai, Feb. 6, 1923.

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—"Regulations are made to be obeyed."

Municipal Notification No. 3108 (which has appeared in the public press for some time) contains, amongst other Traffic Regulations, the following:—

No. 36A. Any vehicle carrying a load, which extends more than two feet beyond its overall length, including the body or other structure . . . Any vehicle so loaded shall carry between sunrise and sunset, a red flag, at least one foot by one foot in size, at the extreme rear end of the load; to be replaced between sunset and sunrise by a lighted lamp showing a red light clearly visible within a reasonable distance from behind and from either side.

The first paragraph of the notification states that this Regulation No. 36A will be enforced from February 1.

From personal observation from February 2 up to date, this Regulation is being completely ignored. For the first few days up to the 6th instant, hand-carts transporting 50 feet tram lines have been proceeding east along Yangtsepoo Road without flags; also, handcarts proceeding west have been carting timber of about the same length, also without flags.

Also almost any evening after sunset, when quite dark, dozens of empty handcarts can be seen hurrying east in the same district without lights of any kind to notify their presence, and almost always in the line of the fast traffic, and the police take not a particle of notice; it appears to me like court-ing disaster.

Daily, we see foreign drivers or owners of motor-cars appearing in Court for slight breaches of the Regulations re parking of cars, by staying a few minutes too long in one place; surely their defaults are infinitesimal compared to the breaches of the Regulations that I am drawing attention to.

I am, etc.,
FREDK. DAVIES.

Woosung Forts, Feb. 7, 1923.

COMPANY MEETINGS

THE CHEMPEDAK RUBBER AND GAMBIER ESTATE

The Annual Meeting

The 13th annual general meeting of shareholders in the Chempedak Rubber & Gambier Estate, Ltd., was held on Monday at the offices of the secretaries and general managers, Messrs. J. A. Wattie & Co., Ltd., 10 Canton Road. Mr. A. J. Welch presided, and was supported by Messrs. R. N. Truman and W. B. O. Middleton (directors), and Mr. C. J. L. Stewart (secretary). The number of shares represented was 2,635.

In the course of his speech, the Chairman said:—

The year's working, as you will see from the profit and loss account, has resulted in a loss of Tls. 13,462.70, of which Tls. 3,735.52 represents interest on advances and Tls. 4,779.91 loss on exchange. This latter item arises from the fact that, although the sum due to the agents in London is practically the same this year as it was last, the sterling has been converted into taels at exchange $3/3\frac{1}{2}$ as compared with $4/0$ exchange last year. This result, covering as it does the worst 12 months of the recent slump in rubber, is not entirely unsatisfactory.

The financial position of the company on October 31, 1922, was that the cash liabilities exceeded the liquid assets by Tls. 51,314.48 as compared with a deficit of Tls. 37,635.84 at the end of last year. Since the end of the financial year this deficit has been reduced by the profit on the crops from November onwards, which is being utilized to liquidate the company's indebtedness to the London agents. By this I mean that certain free shipments of rubber have been made to London, the proceeds of which will be retained by the agents, in reduction of their loan and also, as money becomes available in the Straits, funds are being remitted to London. This obviates any loss in exchange that might arise from first converting gold into silver currency.

As you will have seen from the circular posted to you a few days ago, your directors are inviting you to take up a pro rata allotment of new shares at the price of Tls. 6.50 per share. If these shares are all taken up sufficient money should be available to liquidate all the company's indebtedness and to provide working capital for the future. With the addition of this new capital the company will be capitalized at Tls. 342 per planted acre, which is quite a reasonable figure and one which, as soon as the debit of profit and loss account is wiped out, should allow of good dividends being paid. When this will be it is difficult to say with any certainty, but a profit of 32 Straits cents per pound on the restricted output of 146,000 lb., calculated at ex-

change 75, should be sufficient to extinguish it this year.

I would like to say a few words on general matters connected with the industry. Firstly, as regards the cost of production, statements have appeared in many papers lately to the effect that rubber planters who produce their rubber at a cost of say 8d. per pound should be satisfied if they can sell their product at $1/4$, thus netting 100 per cent. profit. This, gentlemen, is a fallacy. One might just as well say that if it costs a coal mine \$3 per ton to win its coal and it sells for \$6 that the mine is making 100 per cent. profit or that an electric light works should only charge a reasonable profit over and above the mere cost of generating its current. The costs of production published by rubber companies simply cover the expenditure necessary to harvest and market the rubber and to upkeep the gardens. To arrive at the true cost one should take into consideration such factors as interest on capital invested in the undertaking, including interest during the five or six unproductive years, depreciation of buildings, machinery, etc., and last, but not least, depreciation of the planted area itself. In the case of this company we have expended in one way or another Tls. 310,000 on purchasing and developing our property. Leaving the other items out of the calculation, interest alone on this sum at 8 per cent. per annum for one year would have added 64d. per pound to our cost this year and speaking generally interest at 8 per cent. on a company capitalized at only £50 per acre and producing at the rate of 240 lb. per acre per annum would amount to 4d. per pound. From this you will see that rubber will have to rise very much more in price before companies can justly be accused of making 100 per cent. profit on their product.

Secondly, as there seems to be some uncertainty about the matter, it may be of interest if I give you a brief outline of the manner in which the restriction scheme is intended to work. The committee that drafted the scheme endeavoured to make it as flexible as possible and it is designed to prevent wide fluctuations in price and to keep it more or less steady at between $1/3$ and $1/6$ per pound, although of course special circumstances may arise to upset this intention.

A standard output is assessed for each estate based on the actual output from November, 1919, to October, 1920, and on November 1, estates started exporting, at the minimum duty of two cents per pound, not more than 60 per cent. of this standard production. When the average price has been maintained at not less than $1/3$, London landed terms for three consecutive months the percentage of rubber exportable under the minimum duty will be raised by 5 percent. in the ensuing quarter, or if maintained at not less than $1/6$ the percentage will be increased by 10 per

cent. in the ensuing quarter. Conversely if during the second quarter after the initiation of the scheme or in any subsequent period of three consecutive months the price of rubber has not averaged at least $1/-$ per pound, the percentage of standard production that may be exported at the minimum duty will be reduced to 55 per cent., and so on by reductions of 5 per cent. at the end of every three months until the average of $1/3$ is secured.

The first period of three months expired on January 31, and as the price had not averaged $1/3$ no release of restriction was made, the next period for revision therefore falls due on May 1, 1923. Assuming that rubber averages $1/6$ from now onwards, the percentages exportable under the minimum duty will be as follows:—

May/July quarter	70 per cent.
Aug./Oct. "	80 "
Nov./Jan. "	90 "

So, under the most favourable circumstance, it will not be possible under the scheme for estates to get back on to full production until February, 1924, if on the other hand rubber only averages $1/3$ from now onwards, full production will not be permissible until February, 1925. Such being the case, gentlemen, I think we may now look forward to the future with equanimity.

There were no questions, and the formal resolutions were adopted unanimously.

THE PENGKALAN DURIAN ESTATE, LD.

A meeting of shareholders in the Pengkalan Durian Estate, (in voluntary liquidation), was held at No. 1 The Bund, on Wednesday, for the purpose of receiving the liquidator's report.

Mr. A. E. Stewart, the liquidator, presided and, after reading the notice convening the meeting, said:—

This meeting of shareholders is called in conformity with Section 187 (2) of the Companies Ordinances, Hongkong, in order that I may lay before you an account of my acts and dealings and the conduct of the winding up since the date of liquidation. As you are aware, the company went into voluntary liquidation on August 12, 1921; at the meeting held on August 12, 1922, I informed you of what had been done during the preceding year.

There is practically nothing further for me to tell you. Of the 60,000 shares to be issued in exchange for the old shares, I have issued 59,558 shares, and in accordance with the sanction of the directors of the new company, the balance of 442 shares has been lodged with the secretaries and general managers, Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co., to be issued to the shareholders in the old company as and when applied for, in exchange for the old company's share certificates. These shares have

presumably changed hands (without any transfer being registered) and it is impossible to ascertain the present holders. There are no accounts to be submitted, as all liabilities of the old company were defrayed, as per agreement, by the new company. The assets were also taken over by the new company and therefore no actual property has come into my possession.

That is all I have to say, Gentlemen. If any shareholder has any questions to ask, I shall be glad to answer them to the best of my ability.

No questions being asked, the meeting then terminated.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

THE NAVY LEAGUE

Purchase of a New Site for the Union Jack Club: Features of the New Building

The annual meeting of the Navy League (Shanghai branch) was held at the Shanghai Club on Tuesday under the chairmanship of Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., H.M. Consul-General.

In proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, Mr. Barton said there were two points in the report which perhaps differentiated it from reports of recent years. One was the decision to create a guarantee fund for the purpose of having a sum of money in hand which would always enable the League's activities to be carried on, regardless of any unforeseen circumstances that might arise. They hoped to enhance that fund through the giving of lectures and other entertainments which would bring in a certain revenue.

The other important point was under the heading of the Union Jack Club. The intention of the League to establish a Club for bluejackets was not new. They had now reached that stage when the Club was in sight. As a result of the disposal of the old recreation ground, they were enabled to acquire a site in Myburgh Road quite close to the Public Recreation Ground, a site essential for the success of any Club of that nature. With the generous support of the Race Club it had been found possible to go ahead with the new building and to provide for its upkeep in the future. At last there would be a visible example of the activities of the League, in the form of a Club practically in the centre of the Settlement. It was to be hoped that it might induce people to join the league.

"If there is one part of the world where the meaning of naval protection to British subjects and commerce is clear, it is in China," the chairman went on. "There is no other British naval station in the world where the protection of British subjects and commerce is more often translated into actual deeds

than here, owing to the continual upheavals in this country."

In conclusion, the Chairman said he was sorry to note that at present there were only 287 members, who possibly did not represent more than five per cent. of the British community.

The president, Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., the Vice-Presidents (Presidents of St. Andrew's, St. George's, St. David's and St. Patrick's Societies), and the committee composed of the very Rev. C. J. F. Symons, Sir Edward Pearce, Mr. B. D. F. Beith, Mr. E. F. Mackay, Mr. P. L. Knight, Mr. J. Prentice, Mr. N. Lees Smith, Mr. E. F. Bateman and Mr. E. S. Wilkinson (hon. secretary and treasurer) were re-elected.

In describing the new club, Mr. Wilkinson said its main features were a bowling alley, a big recreation room installed with a cinema (in a fire proof house projecting from the walls) and a roof garden. On the ground floor there would be a bowling alley, a small bar and baggage room; on the first floor recreation and dining rooms; on the second floor two billiard rooms, P. O.'s room, reading room, library, manager's office and store room; on the third floor two dormitories of 19 beds; on the fourth, similar accommodation; and on the top floor, quarters for the management.

It was proposed to use the second billiard room for those who could really play.

A vote of thanks to the hon. treasurer, in which the Chairman associated himself, was proposed by Dean Symons.

SHANTUNG ROAD HOSPITAL

Present Buildings Insanitary and Dangerous: The Vital Need of New Ones

The annual meeting of the Shantung Road Hospital was held on Thursday, Mr. Sidney Barton, C.M.G., H.M. Consul-General presiding over a large gathering of subscribers. At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. H. H. Read, on behalf of the Race Club, handed Mr. E. Pugh, the hon. secretary, a cheque for \$7,700 towards the funds of the hospital.

Rising to propose the adoption of the report and accounts, Mr. Barton said that there was one point to which he particularly wished to draw the attention of his hearers, namely the question of the proposed new accommodation. Since returning to Shanghai after an absence of 12 years he had visited most of the public buildings and institutions in the Settlement, at the same time noting the enormous growth of the place. The hospital and the Mixed Court were among the oldest. Yet on visiting the hospital the other day he had found that it alone of all the public institutions still remained outwardly in the same condition as in years gone by. Every other institution had either been greatly improved or re-built. The Mixed

Court had been improved since he was there last. People in Shanghai were inclined to take too many things for granted. The present accommodation of the hospital ought no longer to be taken for granted. All those who had adequately supported it in the past should make a renewed effort to see whether it was not possible to provide for new accommodation in the shape of new buildings to enable it to take its place in the Settlement which has gone on growing, leaving the hospital an isolated bit of the old-time Shanghai. There was a special call for an institution which was possibly the oldest in Shanghai. Britons were conservative and proud of their old institutions. The older an institution the more they thought of it. Their Chinese friends possessed the same trait. Chinese and foreign interests were interdependent. Both proud of their old institutions, they could surely see that here was an opportunity for foreigners and the Chinese, for whose benefit the hospital existed, to unite in providing a building worthy of this work, the workers and their continued self-denying efforts. (Cheers.)

Passing to the accounts the Chairman said that there had been an overdraft on the bank, which necessitated more special efforts than in normal years to help the finances. There was a reference in the report to the possibility of support from the Boxer Indemnity Fund. "I have no actual knowledge of what is being done," the Chairman proceeded, "and I obviously cannot express any opinion. But I can say that when the time comes to put forward institutions connected with medical education, I do not think there will be any doubt that the Shantung Road Hospital should be in the front rank of those deserving. The British Minister, Sir Ronald Macleay, who had the opportunity of visiting the hospital on Wednesday, was very glad that he had been able to see for himself the excellent work done by the hospital."

Sir Edward Pearce, in proposing a vote of thanks to the hospital staff, made a sympathetic appeal for increased support in the way of subscriptions, especially from Chinese.

THE HOSPITAL'S HISTORY.

Mr. J. H. Teesdale mentioned, with regard to the urgent necessity of a new building, that what the Chairman had said about the age of the hospital was correct. The institution was an outcome of a meeting of British residents on December 3, 1846, Mr. (subsequently Sir) R. Alcock occupying the chair. The hospital was apparently built somewhere near the North Gate. In 1872 that building was quite insufficient to meet the requirements of the institution. The new hospital building which was accordingly erected was the one they now occupied, moving in on July 11, 1873. Mr. H. Lester was thanked at a meeting of subscribers held soon afterwards for the excellent plans he had prepared. He (the speaker) was glad to say that Mr. Lester was still alive and had

subscribed handsomely to the hospital funds. They all hoped that he would be spared to attend the opening of the new building. Referring to the ownership of the present property, Mr. Teesdale said that it was not actually purchased by the hospital until 1901, having been previously rented from the London Mission. Various extensions had been built on to the hospital, making it a jumble of bricks and mortar. It was useless to consider any further extensions.

Mr. H. H. Read said that 20 years ago, when he was honorary secretary of the hospital, practically all contributions were from foreign pockets. It was particularly gratifying to notice year by year the increase in Chinese subscriptions. The present year was a record in this respect. He had not been deputed by the Stewards of the Race Club to represent them that afternoon, but he had to mention that there had been a race meeting, the proceeds of which were divided amongst the British War Graves at Tsingtao and the balance equally among the hospital and the King's Daughters' Society. It was particularly gratifying to the Stewards to find this race meeting so well supported. It gave him great pleasure to announce that after providing Tls. 3,000 for the war graves, which would keep them in good order, the King's Daughters' Society and the Shantung Road Hospital would each be benefited to the extent of \$7,700. Mr. Read then handed a cheque for this amount to the hon. secretary.

In cordially thanking the Race Club on behalf of those present, the Chairman said the donation could not have come at a more opportune time.

OFFICE BEARERS.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—

Foreign Committee:—The present trustees; Dr. C. J. Davenport, medical superintendent; Dr. R. J. Marshall, consulting medical officer; Dr. E. D. Jackson; Sir Edward Pearce; Mr. A. D. Bell, Mr. Ellis Pugh, Mr. F. R. Scott, Mr. R. W. Wells and Mr. G. S. Aveyard.

Chinese Committee:—Messrs. Chu Pao-san, M. Y. Chung, Wang Yiting, Chun Fai-ting, Fu Sie-wan, Ching Tay-bai, Loh Ve-yung, Yu Ya-ching, Tam Hoi-chow, Ching Bing-him, Bai Shung-sung, Chang Lan-ping, Chun Shut-kai, Shik Luk-sung and Sisson Nie.

SHANGHAI PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Stamp Auctions to be Held

There was a good attendance at the fortnightly meeting of the Shanghai Philatelic Society which took place at the Hall of the Royal Asiatic Society, on Wednesday evening.

Tea and refreshments were served before the meeting. Mr. Lee Fai-tong exhibited his valuable collec-

tion of the stamps of China. The collection was well arranged and included most of the inverted surcharges, perforation errors and other rarities.

The Secretary, Mr. Wm. C. Divers, spoke of the necessity of a room for the use of the society, in addition to the present hall, in which members could meet to exchange stamps, welcome philatelists passing through Shanghai and which would also help to bring philatelists together. He explained that the present income was insufficient to carry out the scheme and suggested that stamp auctions be held after each fortnightly meeting and a 10 per cent. commission on sales be given to the society. This being unanimously agreed to, the Secretary then disposed of 20 lots. The bidding was keen and good prices were realized. The last lot—a collection of 1,400 stamps—brought in \$20, and the owner generously donated this sum to the society's funds.

The following conditions were agreed to regarding future auctions:—Owners of lots agree to refund in the event of misrepresentation. Forgeries, torn or damaged stamps to be stated as such.

The auctioneer and assistants to act in an honorary capacity without payment for services rendered.

Only members of the Shanghai Philatelic Society to be allowed to participate, either as buyers or sellers.

The society has now an active membership of 52. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. Wm. C. Divers, 35 Darroch Road, will be pleased to nominate eligible collectors for membership.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY OF SHANGHAI

A Review of the Year's Work: Arrangements for the Annual Patronal Festival

The annual meeting of St. Patrick's Society of Shanghai was held on Thursday afternoon at the Palace Hotel, with Mr. J. J. Dunne, the president, in the chair. Mr. Dunne gave a brief *resumé* of the Society's activities during the past year, which included the sending of an address of welcome to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, when the latter visited Hongkong; and the holding of a dinner and dance on March 17 at the Cercle Sportif Français to commemorate their Patron Saint.

Before presenting the financial report for the year, prepared by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. J. Stafford and audited by Mr. S. J. Wolfe, the president stated that the two greatest expenditures had been \$249.75, which had been paid as educational fees on behalf of Irish children; and advances made to distressed Irish, totalling \$256.86. Mr. Dunne believed, however, that the greater portion of the last mentioned amount would be repaid.

The treasurer's report was then unanimously adopted.

Mr. Dunne strongly urged that a vigorous campaign should be made among Irish residents of Shanghai to bring the total membership of the society up to at least 200.

In the balloting for officers for the ensuing year Mr. R. B. Moorhead was elected president, while Mr. J. J. Dunne was chosen vice-president. The following members were unanimously elected to serve on the committee:—Messrs. E. H. Lynch, G. E. Peet, S. C. Potter, L. P. Ridgeway, M. J. Timmins, D. P. Griffith, T. Murphy and S. W. Wolfe. Mr. T. P. Givens and Mr. J. J. Stafford were re-elected Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, respectively.

Mr. Dunne stated that there had been some discussion regarding the advisability of holding a celebration on St. Patrick's Day this year and asked for suggestions. It was the consensus of opinion of the members present that it was advisable to hold a celebration, to take the form of a musicale, dance and supper, to be held at one of the popular restaurants. The arrangements were left in the hands of the committee.

In conferring the degree of Doctor of Laws upon Sir Paul Chater last month, the Vice-Chancellor of Hongkong University, Sir William Brunyate, remarked:—No more stirring story is to be found in the East than that of the transformation of Hongkong from a barren rock to the home of a prosperous, an orderly, and a well-governed community. The work has called for imagination, for insight and for courage, and it is from men such as Sir Paul Chater that those qualities had not least been required. If we wish that story to be fully reflected in the roll of our honorary graduates, then the name of Sir Paul Chater must be added to the list.



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SPORT

THE PAPER HUNT

A Big Field and Big Jumps

A very large field put in an appearance at the meet of the Paper Hunt Club on Saturday afternoon. The hunt was laid by Mr. M. O. Springfield, winner of the previous event, and, beginning at the Long Village, it traversed the best part, of both the Rubicon and Home countries and ended at the further end of Barrier Creek, not far from where it began. The result was that there were many big jumps and the pace was hot, for, the country being well known, hounds dashed off at a great pace and, if some did over-run the trail now and then, there were always others to carry on at full pace.

From the start, riders proceeded up the few jumps of Pinkerton's line and then passed over two platforms, till they entered on the route towards the Hunt Memorial, via Moleskin Wade. Then came the Yellow Joss House line and two more platforms, and riders came back again to the Rubicon Creek and waded it. The most formidable obstacle of the day followed, in Potter's Pride, which held up several riders. The rest passed by Dallas's Grave and Family Tree Wade to the Slough of Despond and through Panama to Pons Platform, and round the end of the Barrier Creek line of jumps Mr. B. D. F. Beith, on Liability, came in first, and Mr. T. G. Drakeford, on Seabird, was the heavy-weight winner. The card reads as follows:—

- 1.—Mr. B. D. F. Beith on Liability.
- 2.—Mr. V. Haimovitch on Yellow Peril.
- 3.—Mr. T. G. Drakeford on Seabird.
- 4.—Dr. C. Noel Davis on Duncan Gray.
- 5.—Mr. J. H. Liddell on Coutt's Grey Griffin.
- 6.—Dr. J. Edgar on National Union.

SHANGHAI LADIES GOLF CLUB

January Competition Results

Challenge Cup.—Won by Mrs. H. Y. Irwine 1 up; Runner-up Mrs. V. H. Lanning.

Eclectic Competition.—(Kiangwan).

Lanning	70—4½ = 66½
Stodart	68—2 = 66
Fowler	71—3 = 68
Enticknap	72—3½ = 68½
Johnstone	77—4½ = 72½
Fletcher	78—5½ = 72½
Lofting	76—3 = 73
Irwine	77—3 = 74
Ryde	79—4 = 75
Read (W.S.)	93—9½ = 83½

Season Medal.—(Kiangwan) Won by Mrs. Tweedie Stodart 82—6 = 76; 2nd Mrs. Lofting 86—9 = 77.

Extra Competition.—(Kiangwan). (Cup presented by Mrs. C. H. Ryde for the best Medal Score made during December and January.)

Tie.—Mrs. Baker 82; Mrs. Tweedie Stodart 82.

Club Cup.—(Shanghai). Tie.—Mrs. S. A. Sleap 47—6 = 41; Mrs. T. J. Eldridge 49—8 = 51. 2nd Mrs. P. Fowler 47—5 = 42.

SATURDAY'S FOOTBALL

Table of Results

INTERPORT TRIAL MATCH.

Interport XI, 6; Rest of Shanghai, 0.

LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION.

S. R. C., 3; S. M. Police, 3.
Customs, 9; H. M. Navy, 2.
Club Lusitano, 3; Hanbury School, 0.
S. F. C., 3; Rangers, 1.
St. Xavier's 12; Public School 0.

RUGBY MATCHES.

Whites, 13 pts.; Blacks, 6 pts.
Blacks, 36 pts.; Whites, nil.

M. C. C. CRICKET TOURS

The Third Test Match in New Zealand

Wellington, N. Z., Feb. 2.

The third and last Test match between England and New Zealand opened here to-day in fine weather before an attendance of 3,000 people. The wicket was fast.

New Zealand were all out for 166, to which Bernau contributed a sound and aggressive 61. Calthorpe bowled excellently taking 6 wickets for 53.

At the close of play the M. C. C. had scored 180 for 3 wickets. Chapman carries on with 69 not out.

Feb. 3.

Five thousand people were present on the second day of the match. The weather was ideal and the wicket fast.

The M. C. C. carried their first innings score to 401. Chapman was out at 71, adding only two runs to his overnight score. McLean made 53 and Lowry played a sound and forceful 130.

When stumps were drawn New Zealand's score stood at 178 for 5 wickets. Collins scored 69 and Blunt was not out with 65.

Scores:—New Zealand 166 (Bernau 61) and 178 for 5 wickets. M. C. C. 401.—Reuter.

Wellington, Feb. 5.

The M. C. C. won their Test Match against New Zealand by an innings and 20 runs.

New Zealand carried their second innings score to 215, Blunt contributing 68.

Gibson (England) took five wickets for 65 runs, of which he took four wickets to-day for three runs.

Scores: New Zealand 166 (Bernau 61), 215 (Collins 69, Blunt 68); M. C. C. 401 (Chapman 71, McLean 53, Lowry 130).

The weather was fine, but there was only a small attendance. The wicket was fast.—Reuter.

Palmerston North, N. Z., Feb. 7.

The M.C.C. beat Palmerston North by 140 runs.

The M.C.C. declared with 306 for 8, Catterall scoring 136 in vigorous style with four 6s. and eighteen 4s. Gibson made 58 not out.

Palmerston followed with 123.

The M.C.C. declared again in their second innings with 53 runs for 6 wickets.

Palmerston were dismissed in their second innings for 96.—Reuter.

M. C. C. v. Transvaal

Johannesburg, Feb. 3.

In fine weather and before an attendance of 7,000 the match between the M. C. C. and the Transvaal opened to-day. The wicket was softish.

Mann won the toss. The M. C. C. made 262. Russell scored 81 in a stylish innings, characterized by good cutting. He hit 10 fours. Woolley batted an attractive 62. Nupen gave the best bowling display for the Transvaal, taking 5 wickets for 48.

The close of play score for the Transvaal was 58 without loss of a wicket.—Reuter.

Johannesburg, Feb. 5.

There were 2,500 people present on the second day of the match between the M. C. C. and Transvaal. The weather was fine and the wicket fast.

Transvaal brought their first innings score to 171, Catterall hitting up 68. Macaulay took four wickets for 30 and Fender four for 65.

The M. C. C.'s second innings score, when stumps were drawn, was 142 for one wicket. Russell scored 58 and Sandham 65 not out.

Scores: M. C. C., 262 (Russell 81, Woolley 62) and 142 for one wicket; Transvaal, 171 (Catterall 68).—Reuter.

Johannesburg, Feb. 6.

The M.C.C. beat the Transvaal by 199 runs.

Play was resumed on the third day in fine, warm weather on a fast wicket. The attendance was moderate.

The M.C.C. declared with 288 for 4 wickets. Sandham played a masterly innings of 114, his strokes behind the wicket being splendid. Wooley scored 52.

The Transvaal were dismissed for 180, Macaulay taking 4 wickets for 30 and Wooley 3 for 27.

Scores:—M.C.C. 262 (Russell 81, Wooley 62) and 288 for 4 declared (Sandham 114, Wooley 52). Transvaal 171 (Catterall 68) and 180.—Reuter.

Australian Inter-State Match

Melbourne, Feb. 5.

The Victorian 2nd XI in a match against Tasmania, which concluded to-day, made 1,059 runs, of which Ponsford scored 429.

With the exception of Melbourne University's score of 1,094, this is the highest innings total recorded either in first class or minor cricket.—Reuter.

FOOTBALL AT HOME

London, Feb. 3.

F. A. Cup.—Second round:—
Middlesborough 1, Sheffield U. 1.
Bury 3, Stoke 1.
South Shields 0, Blackburn R. 0.
Bristol City 0, Derby County 3.
Plymouth Argyle 4, Bradford 1.
Tottenham H. 4, Manchester U. 0.
Sheffield Wed. 2, Barnsley 1.
Millwall 0, Huddersfield 0.
Chelsea 0, Southampton 0.
W. Bromwich 2, Sunderland 1.
Brighton and Hove 1, West Ham

1. Wolverhampton 0, Liverpool 2.
Leicester 0, Cardiff 1.
Bolton W. 3, Leeds 1.
Wigan 2, Queen's Park R. 4.
Charlton 2, Preston 0.
English League.—First division:—
Notts Forest 2, Arsenal 1.
Aston Villa 2, Manchester C. 0.
Oldham 2, Birmingham 0.
Scottish League.—First division:—
Aberdeen 4, Ayr 1.
Albion R. 3, Morton 0.
Clyde 2, Airdrieonians 0.
Falkirk 1, St. Mirren 1.
Hibernians 2, Third Lanark 0.
Kilmarnock 4, Celtic 3.
Motherwell 2, Alloa 0.
Partick Thistle 2, Dundee 0.
Raith Rovers 2, Hearts 1.
Rangers 3, Hamilton 0.

London, Feb. 6.

Association: Scottish League,
Division I.
Third Lanark 2, Rangers 2.
St. Mirren 4, Dundee 0.—Reuter.

London, Feb. 7.

The following are the results of replays in the second round of the F.A. Cup:—

West Ham 1 Brighton and Hove 0.
Southampton 1 Chelsea 0.
Huddersfield 3 Millwall 0.
English League, first division:—
Liverpool 2 West Bromwich 0.
Scottish League, first division:—
Hearts 3 Clyde 1.
Airdrieonians 3 Partick Thistle 3.
Raith Rovers 1 Kilmarnock 0.—Reuter.

RUGBY: SCOTLAND v. WALES.

Cardiff, Feb. 3.

Forty-five thousand people witnessed the Rugby International between Scotland and Wales here to-day. The weather was fine and the turf good.

Scotland beat Wales by 11 points to 8.—Reuter.

Mr. Hugh Miller, formerly Vice-Consul for the United States in Hongkong, and Mrs. Miller have just returned from Home leave. They are proceeding to Mr. Miller's new station in Singapore.

AN INTERPORT ROWING REGATTA

Shanghai's Acceptance of Hongkong's Invitation: The Selected Team and Coach

The sporting members of the community, and more especially those who are interested in rowing, will learn with interest and pleasure that the Shanghai Rowing Club has accepted the invitation of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club to participate at an Interport and Inter-Club Regatta at Hongkong on March 17, to be held under the auspices of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club. Invitations to compete at this Regatta were extended by Hongkong to Singapore, Shanghai and Canton. The Victoria Recreation Club of Hongkong is also to be a participant.

The committee of the Shanghai Rowing Club has selected the following six oarsmen to represent the Club:—Messrs. H. J. Collar, J. B. Brown, E. A. Ericson, C. Neprud, E. S. J. Phillips, jr., and F. W. Schlobohm.

It is to be noted that these men were selected from a list of only nine oarsmen who stated they were willing and able to go to Hongkong if chosen. It is considered, however, that they provide excellent material for Mr. D. M. Graham, who has kindly agreed to undertake their training and coaching, to work on. Rigid training has already been entered into, two crews having been formed, stroked by E. A. Ericson and F. W. Schlobohm. The club is fortunate in being able to secure the services of Mr. Graham, who has coached many another crew to success, throughout his long career in the Rowing Club.

It is hoped that the club will compete in all the five open events. E. A. Ericson is the only sculler, and it is quite probable that he will enter for the sculling event. Shanghai will follow the training

of its representatives with interest, confident that they will render a good account of themselves at Hongkong on March 17.

THE forthcoming marriage is announced of Mr. W. J. Fulker, Acting Tidesurveyor, C. M. Customs, to Miss Julia McLaurin. Mr. Fulker is the youngest son of the late Major Fulker, F.R.G.S., well-known in the geographical world for his independent journeys and researches in northern Borneo. Miss McLaurin is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John McLaurin, Tongshan, and is a talented water-colour painter. During the war she held an important executive position in a munition factory in the north of England.

THE French Municipal Bulletin just issued contains an account of the first meeting of the French Council at which the newly elected members attended, with the exception of Mr. Schwyzer who was absent from Shanghai. In opening the meeting the French Consul-General expressed his pleasure at seeing the newly elected members there. The election had been a great success, and the number of votes received by each of them was an ample indication of the direction of public opinion. M. Wilden added that it seemed to him necessary to state that the far-reaching modifications of the status of the Concession, of which one of the candidates had spoken in his electoral programme, would not in any case be approved by the French Government. After personally welcoming Mr. Dyer, M. Chapeaux, Dr. Tartois and Mr. Sheridan, the Consul-General remarked that he was sure that the interests of France would be faithfully safeguarded, for all the French Councillors were good patriots and the foreign Councillors were good friends of France. M. de la Prade, French Consul, was elected chairman of the Municipal Council, and Mr. W. J. N. Dyer Vice-Chairman.

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SPECIAL ARTICLES

THE ROD AND THE SNAKE

A Sermon Preached in Union Church, Shanghai, on January 21, 1923, by the Rev. A. N. Rowland

"They cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents."
Exod. 7. 12.

This story translates a political crisis of long ago into a symbolic picture, which we are to read like some hieroglyphic of Egypt. Let us look at it again. Here stand Aaron and Moses on behalf of the people of Israel, and opposite to them the Egyptian sorcerers. Both sides are armed with rods, which, in mutual challenge they fling upon the ground. Those rods begin to move, to crawl, to rear a hissing head: the forum has become a viparium. Finally the rod of Aaron swallows up the rods on the other side.

What are we to understand by this strange contest with its mysterious consequences? I read the hieroglyphic like this. Moses and Aaron were acting as tribunes for an appressed people and the rod they each carried stands for the authority and power of their leadership. (Just as sainthood is symbolized by a halo, talent and influence are symbolized by rods). These popular champions were confronted by the chief officials of a tyrannical government, known by their opponents as sorcerers, but regarded no doubt by the court of Pharaoh as the strong and sagacious men of Egypt.

A STORMY CONFERENCE.

A symbolical picture is given of a stormy conference between the representatives of liberty and the myrmidons of authority. It seems that Moses and Aaron threatened to unchain the forces of revolution if Pharaoh refused the claims of justice. The turning of Aaron's rod into a snake signifies that the strength of a downtrodden people, now kept in leash, might easily become a source of terror and anarchy.

But the sorcerers of Egypt did the same with their rods, which signifies that force would be met with force, whips turned into scorpions, and rebellion punished with massacre. And so the menacing debate went on until the threat of rebellion prevailed and Pharaoh was almost persuaded to come to terms. That was, I feel sure, the gist of the scene that is here reduced to the brevity of an ideograph. And I need not remind you that it stands for a struggle which is always near to breaking out, and as a matter of fact has been reproduced before our very eyes both in Russia and in Turkey, not to speak of incidents much nearer home. A few years ago in Russia the democratic leaders found their opportunity of

challenging the Government, and in the circumstances of the time, argument and persuasion soon dissolved into sanguinary action, and for a while Hell seemed to be on holiday. In Turkey on the other hand the threat of revolt has been countered by the threat of oppression and massacre. The sorcerers of the Turkish government, the military chiefs who lead the young Turk party, have again and again let the forces of authority get out of hand in murderous assault, and the subject nationalities have been overwhelmed with savage retribution.

POWERS OUT OF HAND.

But the hieroglyphic may be read for our personal advantage too. It is very significant—that degradation of Aaron's rod when it slipped from his grasp, how the hydra of anarchy instantly raised its head. The power that Aaron wielded as a man of education and influence became a source of mischief and of terror when it got out of hand. And that is a fact of common experience which it will be worth tracing, that the very qualities that are intended for human advantage may slip out of control and work for our undoing.

Take for example the fine faculty of ambition. A man is endowed with it as a means for fulfilling a divine purpose, and see how serviceable and honourable it proves to be in such a leader as Gladstone or Gordon, to name no more. People accuse public men of being ambitious. But there is no sting in the charge so long as ambition is made subservient to the public good. "The thirst for an enduring fame" said Gladstone (vol. 1. p. 634) is near akin to the love of true excellence." The trouble begins when it gets beyond a man's control. Then you will find he is always working for some ulterior end, and the risk is that he will stick at nothing in order to gain his point. A character of this kind is explored and exposed by Hugh Walpole in the study of a canon in his latest book "The Cathedral." This is what he says of him in one chapter. "He could not remember a time when he had not been impelled to alter things for his comfort," and again in another part of the book "The temptation was always strong in him to manipulate the power placed in his hands." How soon the rod of such a man becomes a snake, rousing envy, suspicion and every kind of soreness in the

breasts of other men. The rod is God's sign of stewardship, and when it has lost its true function it may well be said to many a one besides Thomas Cromwell, "I charge thee, fling away ambition."

TEMPER AS A TRUST.

Or take another illustration of the perversion of faculty. A man's temper is also entrusted to him as a sign that he is God's steward, for without temper a man can achieve little in this world. The Times newspaper writing of British caricature some time ago said, "What it needs is more of the energy of righteous indignation." A temper is the horse a man is given to ride: it helps him storm the barricades of wrong, and break through its defences. In the campaigns of God unmounted men are not preferred. But alas! it is easy enough for temper to escape from a man's control. It is enraged at the slightest provocation, thrown away on the mean cause of vanity, and the man's true authority is gone. By the way there are few places under the sun where it is more necessary to keep this rod in the hand than in China.

Take again, the sphere of social relations, where some men are entrusted with the power of money as a symbol of stewardship like a rod of office. It has magnificent uses for the extension of the common good, the encouragement of art, of research, the maintenance of worship and philanthropy. Consider the value of that generous foundation of a medical institution in Peking or the disinterested gift of two big scholarships for British boys out here, who deserve more than their parents can afford. It gives dignity to the things of the mind, encouragement to the finer faculties of the young generation. Yes, it is true of people who are high in position, rich in possessions, that they walk God's earth with rods in their hands.

THE ABUSE OF POSITION.

But what if they fail to use it for the larger interest and the divine purpose. When money gets out of hand in an extravagance of self-display, self-pleasing, self-advancement, what a mischief is set on foot, as if a rod were turned into a viper.

When a lady plans to go one better than her neighbour because she has the means wherewith to do it and makes this the habit of her mind, she does not observe that by such actions she is letting down the whole cause of true authority and real refinement. Money and position are intended to be of social service, but if they are turned to selfish uses they make the people at large hate the people in power, and prepare for revolution.

It was said by a friend on Wednesday evening that the

Armenian character is baser than the Turkish. True, but what if the Turkish tyranny has made the Armenian nature, base; then it is the Turks that are responsible. So it is with the Bolshevik spirit abroad to-day. You contrast its régime scornfully with the world that is educated and refined. True indeed, but what if it is the refined and educated world that has produced Bolshevism, because some of its members used their advantage in total in difference to the use for which they were given! It is those that are "at ease in Zion" who are largely responsible for the bitterness of the workers to-day. It is the rod of their stewardship out of control that stings into activity the blatant beast.

THE REPTILE INFLUENCE OF WAR.

Consider finally the arena of national existence. We saw a nation but a little while ago into whose hands was given a rod of widespread authority and power. Germany was dominant on the continent of Europe because of her commercial efficiency, her high consciousness of solidarity. Her merchants were conquering as wide a world as her musicians. But all this was put to the hazard by its translation into violence. The rod became a snake, and as if by sorcery all the intellect and powers of civilization were degraded to the task of countering savagery by savagery. The lust of dominion and the poison of revenge defiled the very thoughts of Christendom.

And as if that were not lesson enough, we have another nation to-day employing its advantages in the same futile fashion—a nation that was near to utter destruction, but marvellously helped, and not only rescued from ruin, but endowed with its lost provinces whose restoration had only been a dream. Here was a chance for the exercise of moral strength. People say cynically through their disbelief in God "You cannot get your money back by moral influence." Well, I believe that is the delusion of unbelief. But this thing has been proved once for Germany, and will be proved again for France, that you stand to lose everything you have by the loss of moral control; by choosing the way of violence you waste far more than you win. The Kaiser who flung his mighty rod upon the ground had to flee finally from a serpent. And that is the end of all who misuse the powers that were entrusted for the good of all.

IN GOD'S HAND.

I have to leave the subject half way through, but hope next Sunday morning to take up the theme of the restoration of the rod. The only safe place for the rod of power is the hand of wisdom and of love. It is such a place that we need for ourselves—for these wills of ours. One of the finest descriptions of an influential life is to be found in the autobiography of a great prophet. In the 49th chapter of Isaiah, we are given this thought of a man who used his gifts to the

highest possible advantage. He likens himself to an instrument like a rod with the grip of God upon it. "In the shadow of his hand hath He hid me, and He made me a polished shaft, in His quiver hath He kept me close. And He said unto me, 'Thou art my servant in whom I will be glorified.'" There is no surer clue or secret of life than this. The very best go wrong. We have seen it tragically often. It is not our talents that can save us, but only to have our wills in the grip of God.

LETTER'S FROM A SHANGHAI GRIFFIN

By Rose Allen.

Shanghai, January, 1923.

DEAREST KIT:—It was fine to hear from you, though now that I'm determined to answer my letters I view the mail bag with mixed feelings, and yet with the virtuous feeling of one who is solvent at last and determined to remain so. We are having real snappy weather out here now, what you would be expecting in November at home, but we haven't any coal worries such as are wrinkling your brows. (Merely a figure of speech, Kitty, don't take offence). As for the Chinese a shortage of fuel is the last thing to cause them to lose sleep at night. They have a soul above such trivialities as central heating or fireplaces, and as much of their cooking is done outside and hot water shops flourish, all they have to do as the temperature rises is to put on an extra coat and wind the good old knitted tippet round a few times more.

There's not much happened since my letter on the last mail except my visit to the Mixed Court. Yes, darling, I was released without any difficulty, thank you. I'm doing my utter utmost to see a few of the Shanghai sights, partly to have something to write home about but more to have something to keep up my end of the conversation here. I find that my travels, which consist of Iowa Center to New York and return and out to Shanghai do not make thrilling conversational material when I stack up against people who know Europe like their own back yards, have met the Taj Mahal by moonlight alone as often as I've seen the fountain in the town square and are on speaking terms with all the savages in the South Seas.

HOPE FOR THE STAY-AT-HOMES.

However, and notwithstanding, I have found a means of horning into the conversation with a line of my own which trips up even the most versatile globe-trotters. I lightly mention the picturesque flora and fauna of Hongkew market, the extent of the view from Lunghua Pagoda, or the old burying ground at Pootoo and they simply have to listen in respectful silence for a moment or two. Talk about Surrey hills and White of Selbourne's loving view—that's nothing to the

way my shopping excursions in the Native City expand. We have now added the Mixed Court to our repertoire and with your kind permission will try out our first description on you. By the time Madge and I get it worked up for final recitation it will be so much but here are my simple impressions.

This morning there was a case cleverer you'd never recognize it up in the Mixed Court affecting our firm so the Taipan went down and asked his private secretary to take notes if necessary. "Won't you need a relay" said I, pricking up my ears at the thought of an excursion. "Why yes, we might," he agreed amiably but when they left I still had some work to finish so they told me to take a Station tram and get off at Haining Road. "You can't miss it," said he, and with those fateful words cold shivers shook me, for they always mean that I shall wander the countryside over and over again in search of my destination. But I couldn't wait for a nap, since all concerned were in a hurry, so being familiar with Haining Road in connexion with the Victoria Theatre I thought I could recognise it.

A SECLUDED COURT.

Unfortunately I was quite too thoroughly surrounded with passengers to identify any landmark till the station loomed before me, whereupon I hastily made my way back to Haining Road, looking for the lineup of motors and police cordons that should mark the spot. Arrived at Haining Road I looked up and down, and seeing nothing that looked judicial on either side decided to chance it to the right. Stung! After a brisk walk of ten minutes I retraced my steps and tried to the left. Three rousing cheers! A high brick wall and oodles of Policemen. I inquired for the court-room and my inquiry filtered through various Chinese to the foreign sergeant, who informed me that I was in the West Hongkew Police Station. He said a few mystic words to a ricsha puller and off I went to the Court, just as described, on North Chekiang Road, but hiding itself modestly behind the usual high wall.

Asking for the court-room I was met with the counterquery "Which?" Not knowing there was more than one I was somewhat taken aback but took a chance on "Number One" and was accordingly ushered into what looked to me like a pleasant little chapel and seated in one of the tete-a-tete pews. Except for the uniforms the atmosphere was most ecclesiastical, and as I couldn't make out what any one was saying at first I felt just that same confused awe that used to sweep over me if by any chance I was taken to the Latin service in the Catholic Church at home. I almost ducked my head to pray but not having been at church for so long I was slow, and so didn't commit that *faux pas*.

As I got my bearings I saw the two preachers, I mean the British Assessor and the Chinese Magistrate, facing us in front, below

them the court stenographers, and on either side the prosecution's and defendant's witness boxes. Facing them were the lawyers, behind them the prisoners, and back of that the rest of the congregation.

JUVENILE OFFENDER.

The first case that I could follow was that of a small Chinese boy aged 14, who had stolen a watch. On the paternal bond for his good behaviour he was finally turned over to the custody of his respectable and disgraced father, after a few sharp words of admonition had been addressed to him by the magistrate, and as they filed past me I could see "woodshed" written all over that parent's face. By this time I realized that I was in the wrong pew and church both, as I didn't see my office friends among those present, so I went out and demanded the other court, which was just like the other but without so many lawyers.

A gambling party was paying an extra fine for its unlawful diversions here, getting off cheap at \$3 a head. The interesting part was that one of the party insisted at first that he had been arrested during the raid, but it was afterwards found that he was substituting for his father, laid up at home on account of the shock to his nervous system. In spite of the son's accommodating disposition Papa had to forfeit the bail he had put up for his personal appearance. Then there was a ricscha man in some kind of trouble, and much translating from dialect to dialect, and after that what promised to be a pleasantly sensational murder case, but here we had to leave since the case which brought us down in the first place had been adjusted while I was hunting for the right room. Justice is dealt out here promptly, I'll say.

Well, Kitten, I think I may attend the Mixed Court services during Lent, it gives me such a pious sensation. I wonder if I could make the office understand my feelings.

No, I have not seen Jack, nor heard from him, nor looked for him, if you must know. What do you think I do, run a private detective agency to locate stray Americans? Probably he's having too good a time in San Francisco to bother to write home every day.

'Sever, Phil.

TRAFFIC on the last section of the Peking-Suiyuan Railway from Suiyuan to Paotou was to be started on February 1, according to northern papers. This section of the railway which is 270 li long is perhaps the most important of the entire railway. Paotou is a very important place on the Yellow River and goods from the rich province of Shansi are there collected and sent forward by rail to Peking. So far there is no scheduled train service on that part of the line, but connexion has now been established and the new section will doubtless prove very remunerative to the railway.

JOFFE, JAPAN AND CHINA

The Soviet Envoy's Visit to Japan and What May Come of It: The Danger to China Through Manchuria and the C. E. R.:

An Acute Situation

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Jan. 26.

The discussion aroused by Mr. A. Joffe's departure from Peking a short time ago—ostensibly for the South—was as nothing compared with that which his reported intent to visit Japan has inspired in both Chinese and foreign circles here. There is of course a good deal of pure guess work on the part of idle gossips but there is also shrewd surmising being done by well informed persons. Everyone with a head on him has long since realized that the Manchurian situation is a mine of possible troubles, worthy of the attention of all the Powers, great and small. If Mr. Joffe goes to Japan now, his visit will be viewed in all circles in Peking as having a direct bearing upon the Manchurian situation and the Chinese Eastern Railway question and will be watched with the most intense interest. This view in Peking is prompted by several important considerations.

In the first place, those who have been following translations from the Japanese press carefully have noted that in the speeches and writings of many prominent Japanese the failure of the Dairen and Changchun conferences has been loudly deplored. This is interpreted to mean that Japanese officialdom is preparing the public mind for the announcement of a third conference.

In the second place, Mr. Kawakami, once Japanese consul in Harbin, lately Japanese Minister to Poland, who speaks Russian as well as any Russian, was recently recalled to Tokio with orders to travel via Moscow, where he is known to have spent some time. He has just passed through Harbin and by the time this article sees the light of day he will be in Japan.

In the third place, it is asserted in quarters usually responsible that Mr. Joffe did not solicit permission to go to Japan but received an invitation to visit that country and convalesce, from no less a person than Mr. Kato.

In the fourth place it is well known that the Japanese are very anxious about their fishing rights off the North Siberian coast. In recent years these rights have been renewed annually by the Vladivostok Government. While Japan controlled policy in Vladivostok and held the mouth of the Amur, as well as other points on the Siberian littoral, these rights were easy enough to obtain and it would not have been a matter of very profound concern if they had been withheld. The case is different now. The Siberian ports are held by the Reds and unless Japan is prepared to reverse her policy and reassume an aggressive attitude

towards Siberia, replace her garri-sons and make much play with gunboats, she will have to renew her fishing rights this season through negotiation with the Red authorities. Everyone knows that the fish supply from the Kamchatka coast is vital to Japan. The season begins in the early spring and the agreement will have to be renewed before March 1. These circumstances in themselves explain why Japan might now be eager to come to an understanding with the Soviet in the very near future and why the high civil officials in Japan might be preparing the public mind for a third conference with the Soviet envoys. It would also seem to explain Mr. Kawakami's visit to Moscow.

If these surmises are anywhere near correct and if Mr. Joffe goes to Japan to confer with the Japanese Government, it is obvious that the danger of a Red descent upon the Chinese Eastern Railway is not immediate. The Soviet also has something to ask. It will not yield the fishing rights without a liberal *quid pro quo*. As soon as the Japanese say "fish," Mr. Joffe will say "Saghalien." It is not the practice in diplomacy to ask for less than you want and Comrade Joffe is not backward about expressing his desires, so it is more than likely that in addition to asking for the retrocession of the northern half of the island of Saghalien he will try to exact in return for the renewal of the fishing rights, and perhaps for other trading concessions, a free hand in the Chinese Eastern Railway zone.

SOVIET'S EYE ON AMERICA.

Putting aside for a moment this latter supposition, it is easy to see why Mr. Joffe would be only too pleased to go to Japan and talk things over. The Soviet folk want a working trade agreement with Japan since they are eager to recover trade in Vladivostok and the Siberian ports. They want to recover Russia's sovereignty over the Russian half of Saghalien, not only because the Soviet has developed imperialistic ambitions and is coming closer at every step to the policy of the Tsarist régime, but also because the Red Government is eager to win American recognition. The development of the mineral resources of Northern Saghalien has already been pledged to an American mining company backed by a strong financial group. If Saghalien is recovered and the oil and coal concessions in Saghalien actually pass into American hands, the Soviet leaders imagine that in a group of influential New York financiers they will have powerful friends at court. The recovery of Saghalien would therefore kill

several birds with one stone. This is another reason for believing that the seizure of the Chinese Eastern Railway will not be attempted while there is a possibility of negotiating with Japan and while the American deal is pending. New York financiers cannot be supposed to have any great interest in the fate of the Chinese Eastern Railway, but the American Government has, and the Soviet did not grant mineral concessions in Saghalien to please a New York mining company but for the sole purpose of obtaining a lien upon the goodwill of the American Government. The chances of obtaining this lien they are not likely to sacrifice by a premature act of violence in Manchuria.

THE JAPANESE SIDE.

This is the Soviet side of the picture, which is not difficult to understand. Why the Japanese Government should accede to a demand for the restitution may not be so apparent. The answer which covers most ground is "fish." As everyone knows fish plays a huge part in the domestic economy of the Japanese people. In the Orient it is just as commonly known that the Siberian fisheries contribute very largely indeed to Japan's supply of fish, not to mention that they provide employment and profit for thousands of sailors, shipowners, importers, dealers and exporters. The loss of this trade would be a stupendous blow which would affect eventually every household in Japan. The right to carry on this trade, failing successful negotiation with the Soviet Government, can only be guaranteed by a reversal of the policy of the Japanese Civil Government, by the re-occupation of Siberian ports that is by a considerable outlay for military expenses—and by naval protection.

This is an alternative which the officials of the Japanese civil Government would do anything within reason to avoid. At home the military expenditure would be unpopular and it would mean the resurrection of the waning influence of the military caste in all Government departments, which from the new Japanese point of view would be retrogression. Abroad the re-opening of hostilities with Siberia over a question of fish would be regarded with the most profound suspicion. Since the cancellation of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance Japan has very obviously felt her isolation and has made marked efforts to cultivate the confidence of her best market, America. Whatever America may think of the Soviet—and no country thinks less of that institution—Japan's withdrawal from Siberia has undoubtedly boosted her moral credit in America enormously. This the civil Government in Japan would be loath of sacrifice. Long before there was any question of American concessions in Saghalien, the American Government expressed its disapproval of the Japanese occupation of the Russian half of the island. If Japan were now to refuse to get out gracefully when opportunity offered and were then to take aggressive measures in Siberia again over what would appear abroad as such a

trifling matter as fish, the Japanese Government would be stormed with pompous announcements from Washington and with rabid denunciations from the whole American press.

JAPANESE MILITARISTS' OPPORTUNITY.

Moved by these various considerations, the Japanese civil Government might very possibly agree to trade Northern Saghalien for a renewal of the Siberian fishing rights and for other commercial considerations. This could not be accomplished, however, without the bitterest imaginable feud with the entire military caste in Japan. The military could moreover make a very strong appeal to the Japanese people. They would remind the public that Northern Saghalien was seized as a reprisal upon the Reds for the atrocious slaughter of Japanese soldiers and civilians in Nikolaievsk, that no atonement for this outrage had been exacted and that now the Reds were threatening to cut off one of Japan's most important sources of food supply unless the Japanese Government humiliated itself, abandoned itself, abandoned its claims for reparation and meekly handed back Saghalien so that it could be turned over to American exploiters. They could dwell upon Japan's pitiful shortage of mineral supplies, so essential to her industries and to both arms of her national defence. They could and would point out that European and American diplomacy had conspired to weaken her hold upon such meagre resources as she controlled in China, that a timid civil administration had acquiesced in the withdrawal from Siberia and the complete loss of potential supplies there, that Saghalien is fabulously rich in oil coal and what not, and that the conspiracy between Russia and America to recover Saghalien was a conspiracy to cripple Japan's industries in time of peace and to isolate and starve her in time of war. Against such propaganda the Japanese Government, even supposing that it came to terms with the Soviet, would have a very hard fight with little chance of a successful issue unless the military spirit in Japan is much more subservient to diplomatic considerations than we have any reason to believe.

JOFFE'S AMAZING BLUNDERS.

Another element which would not make for success in any negotiations which Comrade Joffe might carry on with the Japanese Government is the Joffe conception of diplomacy. If insolence and abuse lost him ground with every element in Peking and if it is impossible for him to change his tone, he will be given short shift in Japan. Tact is not his forte, as the Chinese and residents of Peking of all nationalities can readily testify. His lack of tact borders on sheer stupidity. This will not help him to win the favour of the Japanese Government in the first place, nor help the Japanese Government to override the opposition of the militarists should it attempt to do so.

Few persons outside of Peking realize how much Joffe has sacrificed

in Peking. When he arrived here, as we all know, both the Chinese intellectuals and the Chinese Government were kindly disposed. The field in this quarter was fertile and well prepared. It is not so generally known that the Legations were not averse to dealing with him and were prepared in several cases to discuss outstanding questions with him. It is probably still less known that the administration of the Chinese Eastern Railway and the Russo-Asiatic Bank were fully prepared to negotiate with him and to offer him compromises. This tendency to good will Joffe has scorned and rebuffed in every quarter. He has abused the Chinese and tried to bully them until his Government is regarded as a greater imperialistic menace to the peace and integrity of China than the Japanese. He has abused the Legations until no diplomat with any sense of self respect could possibly receive him. To the administration of the Chinese Eastern Railway he has said that he had only one message for them: "Get out." The Reds in Siberia and Manchuria, fully informed of the favourable auspices under which he arrived in China, have been puzzled (according to very reliable information) to know why he did not make more headway, and they are beginning to understand. If he goes to Japan it seems more than likely that he will give them better reason to understand. If he goes to Japan to negotiate in the matter of the fisheries, his record in China, not to mention his record in Germany, would almost warrant us in banking upon complete failure; and in the event of failure it is hard to see how a conflagration in the northeast can be readily avoided. This brings us back to Manchuria.

REDS INTENT ON C.E.R.

No one doubts any longer that the Reds are fully intent upon seizing and controlling the Chinese Eastern Railway in one fashion or another. There is plenty of evidence which at this late date it is futile to review. The Captain Allen from Siberia who was recently reviewed by a representative of the "North China Daily News," gave a very glowing account of conditions in Eastern Siberia but made the flat statement that the Reds would seize the Chinese Eastern Railway within six months. This opinion is confirmed by every competent observer having first hand knowledge of the Soviet's plans. The impression given by Chinese press reports from Manchuria that the Reds are all prepared to make an immediate descent is all that the soundest information would warrant us in correcting. The most competent Chinese military authorities in Northern Manchuria say that the Reds have made no adequate military preparation. They are observing the movements of Red troops carefully and say that on the whole frontier, from Pogranitchnaia on the East around the Amur to Manchuli on the west there are now less than 25,000 troops with a few field batteries and very few machine-guns. This means a very thin distribution over such a long

frontier. While sufficient forces could easily be brought to the two termini of the Chinese line within a week or so to push the Chinese back and seize Harbin, the evidence is that the Reds are by no means prepared to bring in enough men in the near future to face the Chinese supported by the existing Japanese forces in Manchuria and by the re-armed Whites under Dietrichs. These facts are also quoted in support of the conviction here that Russo-Japanese negotiations are pending. No one is willing to assume, however, that the Red attempt upon the railway will be long postponed, whatever the results of these hypothetical negotiations may be.

DANGEROUS POSSIBILITIES.

It is not too early to attempt to appreciate the dangerous possibilities which are bound up in this question of the Chinese Eastern Railway—dangerous from the point of view of China's integrity and from the point of view of international complications as well.

About the worst thing that could happen, from the Chinese point of view, though the least likely, would be an amicable agreement between the Soviet and Japan, to which they would append a clause providing for a division of southern and northern "spheres" in Manchuria, or a clause in which Japan would agree not to oppose a Red occupation of the Chinese Eastern zone on condition that Japanese established interests in the north be given special protection and that future enterprises be granted special privileges. This would amount to the alienation and division of Manchuria. It is easy to imagine what the attitude of the Occidental Powers and of opinion abroad would be to such an attitude.

Next to such a development, in a calamitous degree, would be a conflict on Manchurian soil between the Reds and the Japanese. From the point of view of China's territorial integrity and of her sovereignty in Manchuria, a victory on either part in such a conflict would be a defeat for China. This the Chinese might not immediately realize, but Occidental diplomacy would not be blind to this fact and ought not to be blind to it now.

China is used to being the bone of contention and her foreign policy, if it may be called such, has for many decades consisted solely in the business of playing the more immediate menace against the more remote menace. The Chinese, convinced that Soviet Russia is as imperialistic as was Tsarist Russia, are slowly coming to regard Soviet Russia as the more immediate menace, and Japan as the more remote. If the Reds seized the Chinese Eastern Railway this growing feeling would promptly become a fixed conviction and, true to form, Chinese diplomacy would busy itself with playing the Japanese against the Reds. Chang Tso-lin would, of course, welcome Japanese support and it would be readily given. The Red invasion would afford the Japanese militarists all the excuse they would need to

elicit home support for a big expedition. The presence of Dietrichs and his Whites, who would certainly be re-armed, would afford the Reds a battle-cry to which all good Bolsheviks would respond. The Chinese Government and the Chinese people at large would give Chang Tso-lin and his allies all possible encouragement and support.

WHICH OF THE TWO EVILS?

Supposing the Reds were expelled, would not the Japanese find ample excuse for garrisoning the whole Chinese Eastern Railway zone, for policing every town and village and for assuming control of the railway "in the interests of China and for the protection of foreign life and property?" And would they not prolong their sojourn until Japanese institutions were as thoroughly established in Northern Manchuria and until they had exacted every guarantee possible of continued hegemony over Kirin and Heilungkiang? Remember that the militarists would again have the upper hand in time of war and that the voice of the civil dissenter in Japan would be very small and feeble until the war fever wore off. The Tumen-Tienpaoshan district in Eastern Kirin would be rushed to completion giving the Japanese unmolested communications from the Korean coast, through Huining into the heart of a country almost inaccessible to the Chinese themselves and peopled almost wholly by Koreans. If nothing less came of it, the Japanese ambition to restore "Greater Korea," that is a Korea extending as far north in Eastern Kirin as Ninguta, would certainly be realized.

On the other hand imagine what would happen if the Reds won. As soon as the conflict started there would almost certainly be a Korean rising. The Reds have not been holding Korean conferences in Siberia, sending heavily endowed Korean delegations into Manchuria, China proper and Korea, and spending large sums of money upon Koreans in Shanghai for nothing. Such a rising the Japanese would suppress summarily, no matter what it cost, for the sake of her communications. Then if Japan were to lose the Reds would sweep southwards "to liberate Korea." Their justification for over-running Chinese territory *en route* would be obvious. The Chinese would have been the allies of the Japanese and therefore enemies deserving no consideration—deserving no consideration until the Reds reached Liaotung, after which they would become with great facility the liberators of the downtrodden Chinese, the victims of the heinous 21 demands which had imposed a 99-year lease upon them when the lease should have expired in March, 1923. So far as Mongolia is concerned, if the Japanese were victorious in Manchuria they would invade Mongolia to "restore" it to China and to eliminate the Red menace, while if the Reds won they would enter Inner Mongolia to liberate the Mongols and chasten the Chinese. On the whole it is

hard to say which programme the Chinese would like least. It is also safe to say that neither issue would be at all pleasing to the Occident. Upon this there is no need to enlarge.

THE POWERS' RESPONSIBILITY.

The only possible cure for a situation that simply bristles with trouble would seem to be prevention. To this end the Chinese are powerless. The responsibility of preventing a Red invasion of northern Manchuria and of keeping the peace in that area devolves upon the Powers. As one acute observer, long seasoned in Far Eastern diplomacy, remarked to the writer yesterday, this responsibility the Powers will probably consider assuming when the Reds have reached Harbin and the Japanese have 10 divisions moving up the South Manchurian Railway.

Without attempting to hold any brief for the present administration of the Chinese Eastern Railway, the best possible situation from the point of view of international politics for all concerned except the Reds and the Japanese expansionists, is the *status quo*. For the sake of the good name which they have recently acquired in the Occident, the Japanese will probably be pleased to appear content with the *status quo*, unless they are offered a good apology for wrecking it. This leaves the Soviet as the sole disgruntled party and the only party with whom international diplomacy has to deal to keep the peace. There is good reason to believe that the Soviet would not be half so hard to satisfy and not half so impervious to a little sane council firmly worded as Comrade Joffe's tactics have led the Orient to believe. A quiet survey of Red sentiment in Manchuria and in Eastern Siberia has convinced expert observers that a very slight modification of the *status quo* in the Chinese Eastern Railway zone would satisfy Bolshevik *amour propre* and there is every reason to believe that the railway administration would cheerfully agree to these modifications, although Comrade Joffe treated all such hints with such open contempt. This, however, is not a job for newspaper correspondents but for diplomats and in view of all the complications which may grow out of a Red invasion, it is a job which international diplomacy should undertake before the first spark of the conflagration is alight.

A telegram has been addressed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by the Shanghai Women's Rights Association in which the Tsinghua College authorities are taken to task for deciding not to send any more young Chinese ladies to America for "higher education" under the Indemnity funds. The senders say that hitherto only 10 girls have been sent each year which, in itself, is quite unfair, and if no girls are sent henceforward China will become "the laughing stock of the nations."

THE U. S. GUNBOATS IN CHINA

What They Are and of How Little Capable: A Question That Becomes Pressing

From a Correspondent.

Peking, Jan. 31.

Recent political events in the North and martial enterprises in the South have had a very depressing effect upon the minds of all of China's foreign well-wishers. It is difficult now to find in any part of the country a foreign resident who will openly attempt to refute the dictum that China will have to get a great deal worse before she begins to get better. There is no evidence that this pessimistic outlook has engendered the slightest degree of hostility towards China; but there has been a complete loss of faith in the will of China's governing classes to improve. That there is no will to improve is a conviction borne in upon foreigners in all circles by officialdom's complete indifference to financial obligations, commercial contracts, treaty stipulations, and pledges and promises in general. Those who watch internal affairs closely are as much depressed by the obvious indifference of the ruling caste to the traditional principles which used to regulate the relations of Chinese with Chinese. Even "face," which in officialdom is the Chinese equivalent for conscience, is coming to be looked upon with cynical indifference.

For these various reasons there is a strong feeling throughout the country that when the worst comes to the worst in China, consideration for foreign rights, lives and properties is going to play a very small part in the motives and policies of politicians, commanders or soldiery, unless one is fortunate enough to reside in the bailiwick of some old-fashioned chap who cherishes a lingering regard for tradition. It was this feeling which prompted foreigners of all nationalities in North China to take the Coltman shooting case so seriously. The spirit among the Chinese which made such an affair possible has been further manifested in all the attempts that have been made to negotiate a settlement. Chinese replies to American representations have been impudent when not indifferent. This is the new spirit, largely traceable to the returned student influence, which has become as clearly manifest on the Upper Yangtze, or on the West River, as in Kalgan. As the writer has already said, the foreign reaction to this spirit is, for one reason or another, which it would be a waste of time to try to analyze, not hostile; but there is a strong impulse in all communities towards preparedness.

UNEASY INQUIRIES.

One example of the ill-at-ease feeling of the foreign communities and of individual foreign residents in the interior is the spontaneous

interest which Americans in China have taken quite recently in the American fleet of river gunboats in China. It seems suddenly to have dawned upon Americans throughout the country that the little boats with such picturesque Spanish names which carry the American flag up and down the Yangtze and the West River, are pitifully few, woefully ill adapted to the work they have to do, dangerously old, ridiculously slow in most cases, limited by draft and engine power in their cruising range, and obliged in many cases to tie up and lie in deep holes for months at a time because of variations in water and current. The number of available river gunboats, with their draft and speed, has suddenly become of engrossing interest to all Americans in China who have commerce on the inland waterways or who regard China's streams and lakes as possible avenues of escape. These matters were regarded with complete indifference a few years ago, but a great volume of criss-cross correspondence, not to mention a great reverberation of club and chancery gossip, indicates a very nervous realization of the American Navy's inability to protect American communities and shipping on many waterways easily accessible to the gunboats of other nations. While it is some comfort to feel that in seasons of stress, during inter-provincial wars, mutinies, anti-foreign demonstrations and bandit escapades, the commanders of the gunboats of other nations will probably react to the ancient adage that blood is thicker than water, the American communities in China are beginning to feel that this reliance is not conducive to America's dignity in the Orient and that the U. S. Navy Department is not shouldering its due responsibility if it is content to bank upon the generosity of better equipped Powers for the protection of American interests.

Since these various points have become the subject of common gossip throughout China, it may be of interest to the American readers of the "North China Daily News," if to no others, to know just what the American gunboat equipment in China is and what it can do. The Yangtze River fleet includes the Isabel, the Elcano, the Monocacy, the Palos, the Quiros and the Villalobos. On the West River there are the Helena and the Pampanga. Of these the Elcano, the Quiros and Villalobos, and the Pampanga are thought so little of by the Navy Department that they are to be condemned and sold whenever favourable opportunity offers.

THE VESSELS IN DETAIL.

The Isabel (flagship) is a yacht, built on destroyer lines in 1917,

having a draft of 9 feet (without coal) and a speed of 28 knots, which is quite useless in the waters which she navigates because if she were to go much over 12 knots her wave would sink all the junks on the river. In summer she could reach Ichang but during winter low water she must find a deep hole and lie in it. She is at present ensconced in such a hole at Hankow, from which she could not move if an American or an American boat were in difficulties 30 miles up the river.

The Elcano occupies another deep hole off the Shanghai Bund and is similarly situated, so far as her usefulness up river in emergency goes. The Elcano was built in Spain sometime previous to 1899. She has a draft of 12 feet without coal and a speed of 10 knots under favourable conditions.

The Quiros and the Villalobos were built at Hongkong in 1894 for the Spanish Government, for patrol duty out of Manila. In Philippine waters draft is a matter of no moment so these little boats draw about 10 feet when coaled. Their official speed is 11 knots, but they probably average little over six on the river. In summer they can reach Ichang and, under favourable conditions Changsha, but in the winter they must also find deep holes and tie up, stationary forts for perhaps five months out of the year if they are above Hankow. Both are wooden ships on steel frames. According to recent reports the frames are weak, being nearly rusted through.

The Monocacy and the Palos were built at Mare Island in 1913 for the upper Yangtze. They were brought to China in parts and were assembled in Shanghai. They have a draft of three feet and a speed of 13 knots. They are poorly designed for the stretch of river between Ichang and Chungking and should have a speed of at least 16 knots. They navigate the upper river under the most favourable conditions only and during the winter, if they are at the Szechuan end of the run, must tie up and stay there.

The Helena has the distinction of being the only seagoing American gunboat in South China which can get up to Canton. Age is about her only other distinction. She was built in 1884 at Newport News, draws 10 feet of water and can make 11 knots under favourable conditions. The details of her shortcomings are of no interest. It is sufficient to say that her cruising range in the Canton delta is decidedly limited and that she is worn out.

The Pampanga, also on the West River, was built in Manila in 1887. Her estimated speed is 10 knots, but she probably averages six. She draws seven feet, six inches of water and in summer can get above Wuchow but in winter she cannot get as far as that port and can navigate none but the larger channels in the delta. Under considerable stress an attempt was made this past December to take the Pampanga to Wuchow but she stuck 27 miles below that port. In an emergency 27 miles is as good as a thousand. The

British Navy has six well armed ships in South China which could have reached Wuchow when the Pampanga failed. The Tarantula was, in fact, at Wuchow when the Pampanga made the attempt.

NOT WILL BUT POWER WANTING.

This completes the survey of the American inland water fleet in China. No attempt is being made to disparage the service which all of these good ships have rendered in the past or which they would render in time of need so far as their material disabilities permitted. Their fighting equipment is in all cases the best they are capable of carrying and is probably all that any emergency in China would demand. Gunboats are not kept in China to fight one another and certainly not to check the Chinese Navy. They are not fighting machines in the sense which the great seagoing units of the various navies are. They are simply patrol boats designed to protect foreign shipping, life and property in emergencies. Having this single purpose in mind, it is obvious that river gunboats should be above all things mobile and swift. They should be designed with proper draft so as to have the greatest possible cruising range at all seasons and should have speed enough to fight all currents and to respond to an emergency call in the shortest possible time. Leaving the age of many of the American boats entirely out of the question, it will be apparent to anyone who has read through the list that mobility and speed are the two characteristics in which most of the American river gunboats are most conspicuously wanting. It is this consideration which is agitating the mind of the American resident in China in this season of change and possible turmoil.

The Hongkong papers record the death of Master Teddy Arnold, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Arnold of Kowloon, who was mauled by a cheetah at a matinee performance of Harston's Circus. The circumstances of the tragedy were that the deceased lad was passing a cage of animals after the circus show, when one of the cheetahs burst open the door and sprang at him, inflicting a nasty wound in the throat. From the first it was realized that the lad's condition was serious, as, in addition to suffering from severe shock, blood poisoning set in, and the little fellow never completely regained consciousness. Everything possible was done for him at the hospital, but, in spite of all efforts, he passed away, the cause of death being septic pneumonia. He bore his sufferings very bravely, never once complaining, and his end was most peaceful. A circumstance that makes the little lad's death all the sadder is that the whole family had booked their passages for Home and were due to leave Hongkong for good on February 7.

THE LEGEND OF QUEEN VICTORIA

A New Light in the Political Biographies

From a Correspondent.

Manchester, Dec. 21.

Twenty years ago, when Queen Victoria died, she had become a legend to her people. The criticism which had sometimes assailed her in her middle age had not only died away but had been so completely forgotten that such a thing had come to seem incredible. Her age, her bereavements, her prestige, the enormous success of her reign in every material sense, all combined to lift her to an eminence where the voice of critical judgment was entirely stilled. Of her political activities practically nothing was known by the people as a whole. The bulk of the nation saw only the surface of things and respected and admired a venerable lady who for over 60 years had maintained the powers of England and the moral purity of her Court.

On these grounds Queen Victoria still deserves all admiration. There is no legend there, but in many other respects the information which has accumulated since 1902 has brought disillusionment. It began even in 1903 with the publication of Morley's "Gladstone" which showed that when at last that great man, broken with age and labour in the service of his country, had to lay down the burden, even then Victoria had for him no word of gratitude for the faithful services of 53 years. When, four years later, Gladstone died there were messages of grief and mourning from all quarters of the world such as had rarely been known in history, but when in 1894 he had his farewell audience of her, he himself recorded that "there was not a syllable on the past"—except a word of thanks for something done long before for a member of her own royal family. Gladstone had been a model of loyalty and discretion; what he knew never became known during his lifetime to the masses of the people who almost worshipped him, but since 1903 we have heard numerous accusations of the intensity of the Queen's partisanship in politics. As each succeeding biography of those who flourished under her is published—Disraeli, Salisbury, Dilke, and Wolseley—together with the researches of Sir Sidney Lee and Mr. Lytton Strachey another picture of Victoria has been presented. The legend disappears. Capable, strong-willed, of high moral character, she still remains, but she was also, by these judges, narrow in mind, with a strong sense of her own importance, a Jingo Imperialist in foreign politics, ready to defy the Constitution for what she believed to be right, utterly devoted to "favourite" Ministers like Melbourne and Disraeli, and an unrelenting partisan against Liberals like Palmerston and Gladstone.

THE WOLSELEY LETTERS.

The last revelation has come just recently in the letters of Lord and Lady Wolseley. Take on the one hand some illustrations of her relationship with Disraeli—"the old Jew," as many called him, "the old actor" as Strachey says he was, the champion of the infamous Turk, the exponent of everything that English Toryism stands for. In flattering Victoria, Disraeli (to use his own expression) "laid it on with a trowel," and she swallowed the flattery with gusto. For her he was "The Faery." He wrote to her that her confidence in him was more precious in his eyes than rubies. It seemed to him that the primroses sent to him by the Queen must have been sent by the fairy queen Titania. In one of his letters to the Queen he says of himself, he "lives only for Her and works only for Her and without Her all is lost." And in reply the Queen wrote this sort of thing to him, "Would he not accept a Marquisate or Dukedom in addition to the Blue Ribbon (the Garter)? And will he not allow the Queen to settle a Barony or Viscounty on his brother and nephew? Such a name should be perpetuated!" On one occasion he surpassed himself with a letter to one of the ladies-in-waiting which was intended to be shown to Victoria and which said:—"I love the Queen—perhaps the only person in this world left to me that I do love."

Her attitude towards Gladstone was astonishing. She accepted Disraeli's spiteful references to him as a matter of course. She stigmatized the action of the country in returning him to power instead of her own favourite as "unnatural," "mad and unreasoning" and "disgraceful," so that she was "shocked and ashamed." She declared (in writing to the defeated Premier) that "of course I shall not take any notice of Mr. Gladstone, who has done so much mischief" and she affirmed positively that she would not send for Gladstone to form a Ministry, although she was ultimately compelled to do so because it was he and he alone that had won the election for the Liberals and he alone that had a majority in Parliament. Not only, however, did Victoria cherish the most violent dislike for Gladstone but she displayed it openly both to her intimates and to guests at the Court.

HATRED OF GLADSTONE.

It was from the Court therefore that the dislike professed for Gladstone by the English governing classes really derived its impulse. This is the account given by Lady Wolseley of an evening at Windsor:—

So we sat down together, the Queen and I. She was in a black silk dress made anyhow and nohow, and a lace shawl over her shoulders. To repeat the conversation is more than I can do. It was principally about Egypt, but with an occasional side wave to Gladstone and politics. Rather interrogative and ejaculatory on her part, submissive on mine. She has a more changing expres-

sion than anyone I can think of. A very bright young smile, when her face lights up and she shows her gums and some little teeth in her upper jaw. Then she has another expression when she wants to emphasize her disapproval of Mr. G.'s meanderings and maunderings, her mouth tightly drawn down at the corners, and her eyes fixed angrily not on me, but on space, when her accent becomes more foreign and there is a little action of the hand. First they will (hand advanced), then they won't (hand drawn back), and then they will again when it is too late. Always the same, they seem afraid."

And on another occasion, with regard to her Liberal Ministers, she said, "I have been obliged to be very rude to them all, they are so dilatory and tiresome." She said although she wants rest she dreads to go abroad, "for never know what they will do when my back is turned."

At times she found it impossible to restrain her anger. Lord Hartington (afterwards Duke of Devonshire and Secretary for War in the 1880-1885 Gladstone Ministry) is reported to have said that on one occasion she "rated me as if I'd been a footman." The whole of the Gladstonian policy was abhorrent to her. In the crisis of 1878 which led to the Russo-Turkish war she was furiously and violently anti-Russian. When leading Liberals and Radicals held anti-Turkish meetings in London she affirmed that "the Attorney-General ought to be set at these men." She repeatedly threatened abdication if the Government were submissive towards Russia ("the great barbarian"), wrote three letters in a day to Disraeli demanding war and cried impetuously, "Oh, if the Queen were a man, she would like to go and give these Russians, whose word one cannot believe, such a beating! We shall never be friends till we have it out."

NO LIBERAL SYMPATHY.

But Queen Victoria had never any sympathy with Liberalism in any of its aspects. Hence her attacks on Lord Palmerston when he displayed his sympathy with Kossuth, the Hungarian patriot, and with the brewers' draymen in London who mobbed General Haynau, the Hungarian woman-flogging tyrant. Her displeasure with Palmerston was extreme and Lord Clarendon, a Minister himself, noted that she and the Prince Consort wished that "courtiers rather than Ministers should conduct the affairs of the country," and that they "laboured under the curious mistake that the Foreign Office was their peculiar department and that they had the right to control if not to direct, the foreign policy of England." It was at this time that Victoria condemned the House of Commons as "very unmanageable and troublesome."

These revelations, which come with each new book of memoirs on Victoria's reign, must inevitably modify one's judgment of the part which she played in English history.

PEKING, Feb. 4.—Mr. Luan Chung-chih has been appointed as Acting Civil Governor of Anhui pending the permanent appointment of Mr. Lu Tiap-yuan.—Reuter.

COMMERCE & FINANCE

Money and Exchange

OFFICIAL RATES.

Shanghai, Feb. 9.

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for £1 at 3/0½ = Tls. 6.55 at 71.85 = \$9.12

Bank's Demand Selling Rate for G.\$100 at 71½ = Tls. 140.35 at 71.85 = \$195.34

Mex. Dollars, market rate 72.075

Native Interest 03

Copper Cash 224,000

Bar Silver 30½

Bank rate of Discount 3%

Paris on London Frs. 75.60

New York on London B.\$4.67½

BANK'S OPENING SELLING RATES.

Per Tael

LONDON—

Telegraphic Transfer 3/0½

Demand 3/0½

NEW YORK—

Telegraphic Transfer 71

Demand 71½

PARIS—

Demand 1153

INDIA—

Demand 222½

HONGKONG—

Demand 74

YOKOHAMA—

Demand 68½

BATAVIA—

Demand 182

SINGAPORE—

Demand 77½

BANK'S OPENING BUYING RATES.

LONDON—

Demand 3/0½

4 m/s. Credits 3/2½

4 m/s. Docs. 3/3

6 m/s. Credits 3/3

6 m/s. Docs. 3/3½

NEW YORK—

Demand 72

4 m/s. Credits 74½

4 m/s. Docs. 75

PARIS—

4 m/s. Docs. 1200

Closing business done at.

London T.T. 3/0½

New York T.T. 71½

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR FEBRUARY.

Hk. Tl. 5.88 @ 3/0½ £1

" 1 @ 1060½ Frs. 11.81

" 1.26 @ 71 Gold \$1

" 1 @ 70½ Yen 1.59

" 1 @ 222½ Rupees 2.48

" 1 @ 1.50 Mex. \$1.50

" 1 @ 14.32½ It. Lire 15.96

Marks and Roubles no quotation.

Sino-Italian Bank Quotations

Selling Rates, Feb. 9.

It. Lire 14.20 Tl. 1

Swiss Frs. 3.68 Tl. 1

Marks 10,000 Tl. 1

Quotations, Feb. 8.

It. Lire 97.40 £1 stg.

It. Lire 20.80 \$1 U.S.

It. Lire 128.80 Frs. 100

(France).

Francs and Sterling

Paris, Feb. 8.

The Paris-London cross-rate is quoted to-day at £1 = Frs. 75.97.—French Wireless through Reuter.

Week's Exchange Notes

Feb. 10.

At the close of business on the 8th instant the stock of silver in Shanghai was Tls. 22,054,000 and \$30,950,000.

These figures include Tls. 9,100,000 and \$21,410,000 in Chinese banks, in which there were 84 bars.

BAR SILVER.

There were no arrivals of bar silver.

Shipments were:—

946 bars to Bombay.

SYCEE.

There were no movements of sycee during the week.

DOLLARS.

There were no arrivals.

Shipments were:—

\$350,000 to Dalny.

300,000 " Tsingtao.

250,000 " Hankow.

200,000 " Changchun.

100,000 " Harbin.

\$1,200,000

SILVER.

It has been a weak and sagging market throughout the week with very little doing, the principal feature being the decline of the spot price to almost the level of forward, yesterday's quotation being 30½d. ready and 30½d. forward, as against 31½d. and 30½d. for the respective deliveries last week. India has been more or less out of the market altogether and China has been a small seller. The price of silver in America yesterday was 64½ cents, delivery San Francisco, fair business done. The London/New York cross rate was 467½.

EXCHANGE.

Business continues extremely dull. Merchants are doing very little and no improvement can be looked for till well after the China New Year holidays. The market has been almost a speculative one, with very little genuine mercantile business doing. Rates closed last week at T.T. selling 3/0½d. but on opening on Saturday morning they dropped ½d. to T.T. 3/0½d. and went down on Monday at opening to 3/0, where they remained till Tuesday afternoon, when there was a recovery to T.T. 3/0½d., the present level, which is about ½d. over the price of ready silver. Requirements for cash before the China New Year has been the only apparent support to the market, which closes to-day with a decidedly weak tone for forward delivery. Effective rates to-day were T.T. selling 3/0½d. Cash, 3/0½d. February, 3/0 March, 2/11½d. April/June, G.\$ T.T. 71½ cash, 71½ February, T.T. 71 March. For Bills 4 m/s L/C Sterling 3/1½ to China New Year, 3/0½d. February/March, 4 m/s G.\$ 73½ to China New Year, 72½ February/March.

THE SILVER MARKET

Reporting from London on December 20, Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. state:—

The market has continued to show a weak tendency, mainly on account of easier rates in China and the appreciation of sterling in the United States of America. The Indian bazaars have been buying for shipment, but to a large extent sales of silver have been made at the same time for two months' delivery. Bear covering has been carried out rather reluctantly in view of the doubtful outlook ahead. The substantial discount at which the price for forward delivery stands indicates the little confidence which obtains as to the future. The Continent has sold, and supplies are fairly free, notwithstanding the lower level of prices.

The coinage of silver dollars is very active at the U. S. Mints. During the last three months the following numbers were coined:—September, 8,310,000; October, 11,660,000; November, 13,860,000; total 33,830,000. It is probable that no subsidiary coins will be struck during the current year.

The silver quotations to-day for cash and forward delivery are respectively $\frac{1}{16}$ d. and $\frac{1}{16}$ d. below those fixed a week ago.

December 27.—The market has naturally suffered from the proximity of the holidays, though that can hardly be held responsible for the price for forward delivery creating a fresh low record for the year, namely, $29\frac{1}{16}$ d. on the 22nd instant. This quotation is the lowest since May 9, 1919; on that date quotations for two months' delivery were resumed for the first time since July 30, 1914.

During the month of November, exports of silver from San Francisco to China amounted to 4,154,096 oz.

In our Bullion Letter of October 26 last, we referred to a statement by the American Mining Congress of a discovery of silver near Fitzgerald, Alberta. The Canadian authorities, however, inform us that this discovery is of small importance.

The silver quotations to-day for cash and forward delivery are respectively $\frac{1}{16}$ d. above and $\frac{1}{16}$ d. below those fixed a week ago.

A Bank Amalgamation

London, Feb. 5.

Lloyd's Bank, with the approval of the Treasury and of the Army Council, has taken over Cox's Bank.—Reuter.

Landmann's Bank

Copenhagen, Feb. 5.

The Rigsdag has passed a bill establishing a State guarantee for Landmann's Bank.—Reuter.

Coal Output

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending January 27 amounted to 95,510 tons and sales during the same period to 74,797 tons.

SHANGHAI MARKET REPORT

A Satisfactory Settlement with Plenty of Money: Prospects for New Year Trading

Feb. 10.

The piece goods auctions are now closed down for the China New Year interval. Indent business, which, during the past few weeks has been negligible, anyway, has fallen off to practically nothing, and the Chinese concerned in other lines are, like their brethren in the piece goods trade, for the moment only interested with the settlement, so the week has been practically devoid of business.

As to the settlement, one would appear to be justified in saying that it is passing off quite satisfactorily on the whole. There have been awkward situations, for the year in general has been a most unprofitable one, especially with piece goods dealers, and, as stated last week, there has been one very big failure. The prominence given to this latter incident, and the loud proclaiming of their woes by a few who have been badly hit, have led some to think that it is a troublesome settlement. However, the native banks really are in quite a strong position and are showing a marked readiness to finance customers, so that in the main things are progressing very smoothly and happily.

NEW YEAR PROSPECTS.

A prophet in China does not have an easy time, but he who asserts that there is great promise in the coming year is at least in good company, for one finds scarcely any one in the market who does not hold with such a view. A strong point is that, as the result of various happenings, upcountry

stocks are absolutely denuded and must shortly be replaced. Hitherto there have been two principal reasons for the holding up of trade, the chief being the political situation. That, however, seems to have become most promisingly quiet, which is what dealers ask for. Nowadays they absolutely refuse to handle large stocks when they cannot be sure from day to day whether they will pass from their possession to that of soldiers or brigands, without payment, or be lost in the burning of a city.

The other difficulty, which has become so accentuated of late, is the drought. If crops fail, the country people cannot purchase anything else and they are rapidly becoming faced with that possibility. However, there is still time, if rain falls in sufficient quantity, to redeem the situation. Thus it was that, while most people in the city shivered and grumbled at the mixed rain and snow yesterday, traders were hoping for more and more of it. The position really is very serious and those who do not ride or walk in the country can scarcely understand how terribly dry it is. So, considering all things, and hoping for the best, traders are looking forward to a good year. The demand is there if voice can be given to it and this will be done if there are immediate and plentiful rains, and if the political situation remains even only as quiet as it is at the moment.

COTTON AND YARN.

Local Cotton.—There has been a little business during the week, but the market is practically closed for the time and there were no quotations yesterday. The tone is still firm.

Yarn.—In yarn, too, there has been scarcely any business, but the market remains steady, at higher rates.

JANUARY INDEX NUMBER AT SHANGHAI

According to the report of the Treasury Department's Bureau of Markets, commodity prices at Shanghai made another surge upward in January, this being the fourth successive rise since September 1922. This rise was not, apparently, due to any special strength in any one class of products, though both foods and textiles broke down their highest records during the past 41 months, but was shared by four out of five principal groups. The only group failing to gain in the upward rush was the miscellaneous

goods, which declined by 0.4 per cent. from the preceding month.

The Index Number of January totals 114.8, as calculated upon the basis of September, 1919, showing an increase of 2.9 per cent., over December last, and of 2.6 per cent. over the same month a year ago. Compared with March, 1922, during which this Index reached its peak point, the advance is 0.4 per cent. Our monthly numbers since January, 1922, are given below:—

		Miscellaneous											
		Cereals	Other food products	Textiles	Metals	Fuels	Building materials	Industrial materials	Sundries	Average	Total	Average	Total
Last Wed.													
Jan. 1922		128.2	114.6	110.0	102.9	91.9	121.4	94.1	107.7	103.8	111.9		
Feb. "		132.0	111.2	108.0	104.1	91.7	120.1	92.5	108.8	103.3	111.7		
Mar. "		136.3	119.4	108.2	103.1	92.3	117.0	99.9	108.5	104.4	114.3		
Apr. "		134.3	117.8	108.9	103.9	90.9	114.3	90.4	109.4	101.2	113.2		
May "		125.5	119.3	103.0	98.4	93.7	116.5	94.8	107.2	103.0	109.8		
June "		127.5	114.7	104.6	96.2	93.2	114.2	85.5	105.1	99.5	108.5		
July "		127.1	118.8	103.1	93.4	92.9	114.5	84.4	106.2	99.5	108.4		
Aug. "		121.5	115.2	101.6	94.9	91.6	113.0	84.1	102.4	97.8	106.2		
Sept. "		122.7	109.6	101.3	95.2	92.2	113.1	80.4	101.7	96.8	105.1		
Oct. "		120.5	112.0	102.2	94.8	95.4	112.3	84.7	103.5	99.0	105.7		
Nov. "		117.2	116.2	108.8	97.4	99.9	109.7	85.2	104.0	99.7	107.9		
Dec. "		122.8	121.2	110.3	101.7	102.6	112.9	86.4	104.5	101.6	111.5		
Jan. "		129.5	125.9	112.0	105.4	100.7	114.0	84.9	105.0	101.2	114.8		
Jan. "		*148.5	146.6	157.0	142.6	168.9	161.7	192.8	131.2	168.7	152.7		

* Average prices of February, 1913, are taken as 100.

Rubber Development Plan in American

Washington, Feb. 4.

Mr. Hoover, the Secretary of Commerce, has sent a letter to Senator McCormick, endorsing his proposal to introduce legislation authorizing a thorough Government investigation of the rubber-producing possibilities of tropical America and the Philippines.

The foregoing is a sequel to the conference between Mr. Hoover and the representatives of British producers and American manufacturers. It is stated that the British explained the situation leading up to restriction of output and undertook, through their Association, to prevent "runaway prices" henceforth with the consequent over-production, which the Americans feared would result in loss to themselves. —Reuter.

Wei haiwei Land & Building Co., Ltd.

The report of the directors for presentation at the twenty-fourth annual meeting of shareholders, to be held on Friday, February 23, at 11.30 a.m., states that all the bungalows were occupied during the whole of the summer season. During the year, Tls. 156.45 was expended on general repairs and upkeep of the bungalows. Profit and loss account shows a credit balance of Tls. 7,216.71, out of which the directors recommend that a dividend of 6 per cent., Tls. 1.20 per share, should be paid, absorbing Tls. 4,408.80, and that there should be carried forward the balance of Tls. 2,807.91. The company owns 335.0639 mow of land, of which so far only 56 now have been utilized, leaving 279 mow to be developed.

New Engineering Works Dividend

At a meeting of the board of directors of the New Engineering & Shipbuilding Works, Ltd., held on Tuesday, it was announced that the profits for the year, including the carry forward from 1921, amounted

to Tls. 335,216.14 and it was decided that the share-holders be recommended to apportion this amount as follows:—

	Tls.
To pay the preference share dividend at 8 per cent.	120,000.00
To pay a dividend of 12 per cent. on the ordinary shares	126,000.00
To place to depreciation and reserve	6,798.75
To carry forward balance	82,417.39
	Tls. 335,216.14

S'hai Loan & Investment Co.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ltd., held on Wednesday, it was decided to recommend that the balance at credit of profit & loss account of Tls. 80,097.29 be dealt with as follows:—

	Tls.
To pay a dividend of Tls. 0.25 per share.	62,500.00
To carry forward.	17,597.29
	Tls. 80,097.29

THE SMALL INVESTORS' CO.

8A PEKING ROAD, Shanghai

Phone : C. 977 and 761

NOTE

CAPITAL INVESTED, with dividends or Interest payable every six months.

At 7 per cent. Doubles itself in 10 years

At 8 per cent. Doubles itself in 9 years

At 9 per cent. Doubles itself in 8 years

At 10 per cent. Doubles itself in 7 years

START TO-DAY TO DOUBLE YOUR CAPITAL

We are holders of large stocks of sound companies
whose shares will yield

7 per cent. to 14 per cent. per annum

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DOUGLAS FLEMING,

Manager.

The China Mutual Life Insurance Co. Ltd.

A BRITISH COMPANY

Registered under the Hongkong Ordinances and with the Board of Trade (England)

With Assets totalling Taels 10,165,190.33.

AGENCIES THROUGHOUT ASIA

Policies free from all unnecessary conditions and restrictions. Reduction of Premiums for Home Residences

HEAD OFFICE: SHANGHAI

LAW REPORTS

SECRET SERVICE AGENT

Expenses of a Sherlock Holmes

A claim by the Taylor Garage against E. L. Tuck, amounting to \$217.50 for gasoline and car hire, was heard at H. M. Supreme Court last Friday by his Honour Judge Grain.

Defendant did not appear, and service of summons was proved by Mr. W. H. Hearne, who stated that he had some difficulty in the matter. Each time he called at the Astor House, defendant was out on business, and witness never could find him at his office, 51 Kiangse Road, the office of the Oriental Secret Service.

His Honour—What is that, I wonder?

Witness—That is the name on the door. I called on six occasions and only saw the lady stenographer-secretary-treasurer.

His Lordship—Did she say he did attend sometimes?

Witness—She said that sometimes he did and sometimes he didn't. The only time I could get him would be at 7 o'clock in the morning.

His Lordship—Perhaps that was to make it more secret.

Witness added that he ultimately served the summons, by substitution, on the manager of the Astor House.

Mr. J. B. Taylor proved the debt, and added that he received from defendant a cheque for \$96, which was dishonoured by the bank. Defendant then gave witness a compradore order for the same amount, but this also was of no use. He had had nothing since.

Judgment for the amount claimed, with costs.

There was a second case against the defendant, Karm Chand claiming \$778, balance of wages due. Plaintiff gave particulars of the debt, due for his services as No. 1 watchman, and also for providing other watchmen, "for the ships." One item was for engaging 106 watchmen at \$1 a day, and among witness's "expenses" were the items "Palace Hotel \$30," "Empress of Asia \$8." Defendant many times promised to pay, but a number of requests and a lawyer's letter had no effect.

Judgment for the amount claimed, with costs.

COMPANIES ORDINANCES

The Filing of Particulars

Applications by the Engineers of China and the Tientsin Land Investment Co. for further time in which to file respectively an allotment of shares and a return of mortgages under the provisions of the Companies Ordinance 53 of Hongkong, were granted by Sir Skinner Turner, Chief Judge, at H.M. Supreme Court on Tuesday.

Mr. J. H. Teesdale represented

the applicants and Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, appeared on behalf of the Registrar of Companies.

In the case of the Engineers of China, Mr. Teesdale stated that the allotment was made at a meeting of the directors in Peking. Particulars could not be filed as they were presented to the Registrar three weeks too late.

The Crown Advocate said he was convinced that the excuse offered in this instance was a genuine one. He added that there was nevertheless a curious point about the case. In the return 22 founders' shares were allotted when in fact this had not been done.

His Lordship remarked that there might be some way of correcting the return.

Mr. Teesdale submitted that it was a matter for which there appeared to be no machinery for dealing with under the Order in Council.

Finally the matter was left in abeyance, but his Lordship said he would grant the order as prayed, costs to be borne by the applicant. No objection was raised by the Crown Advocate to the second application, which was accordingly granted.

THE ROLLING STONE

A Familiar Police Court Story with a Kindly Ending

A young man with an adventurous history appeared before Mr. Peter Grain at H.M. Police Court on Saturday, and presented the court with a problem of a very familiar character. The accused, William Clark, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and with assaulting the police.

Sub-Inspector Mackenzie appeared for the police, whose evidence was that Clark, an unemployed seaman staying at the Hanbury Institute, was drunk in Tiendong Road on Friday evening and attempted to assault passers-by. The police had some difficulty in arresting him and when, eventually, he was got to Hongkew station, he had to be carried into the cells, after having offered to fight any one foreigner, or two Chinese.

"It's all news to me," said defendant, after having listened to the evidence. "I remember nothing about it."

"That's the worst of getting drunk," commented the Magistrate.

Defendant then said he was very sorry for what had happened, and added that he was waiting for a ship.

Inspector Mackenzie said defendant's board and lodging at the Institute was being paid for. It appeared that he was a stowaway who went on board an American transport at San Francisco and was landed at Chinwangtao. From there he was sent to Tientsin, and so on to Shanghai.

It was ascertained that defendant, whose home is in Dundee, had served in the war. At seven years of age he was sent out to Canada

from one of Dr. Barnardo's homes, and was in Canada when the war broke out.

Asked if he would like to return to Canada, Clark said he would prefer being sent back to Scotland, or to India, where he had a brother.

His Worship—Well, I will ask the Inspector to report the matter to St. Andrew's Society, or the United Services' Association, and see what they can do for you. If they assist, it will be better to send you away than support you here. You do not seem to be a bad character, but you will probably develop into one if you remain here.

Clark stated that he had attempted to get employment in the Customs at Tientsin and Shanghai, but was handicapped through having lost his papers in Manila.

His Worship—You had better not remain in Shanghai. It is the worst place for a man to be about in and no work to do. I shall have to send you to prison for seven days. If you had not assaulted the police I might have bound you over, but the police must be protected. But I think you are not a bad lad, really.

As Clark was leaving the court, his Worship asked if he had an overcoat, observing that the prison must be a cold place.

"I had an overcoat last night," answered defendant, "and the last place I remember seeing it was in a wine shop. But I can stand the cold. (It was gathered that he had been in Alaska)."

The gaoler volunteered the information that the prison suits of clothes were very warm.

"Well," observed his Worship, "if the place is cold, give him two suits."

AMERICAN AEROPLANE SHIPMENT

Charge Against Slevin in U. S. Court in Connexion with Hankow Machines

The case in which James Slevin is accused of importing munitions of war into China was heard by Judge C. S. Lobingier in the U. S. Court for China on Tuesday.

Major C. P. Holcomb, acting District Attorney, assisted by Mr. H. R. Snyder, appeared to prosecute, and Mr. F. J. Schuhl represented the accused.

The charge against Slevin is that on various dates during the months of June and December, 1922, at one or more of the following cities in the Republic of China, namely Foochow, Shanghai, Peking and Hankow, he did aid and abet in the exportation from the United States and in the importation into China of six Curtiss aeroplanes, munitions of war.

Major Holcomb offered in evidence, at the outset of the case, a transcript of the proceedings held at the U. S. Consular Court in Hankow, which Mr. Schuhl admitted, subject to objections in case of irrelevancy and incompetence.

Mr. A. H. E. Edwards, Deputy Commissioner of Customs, Shang-

hai, said that he was acquainted with the shipment of 14 cases of aeroplanes from Shanghai to Hankow early in December, 1922. To the best of his knowledge they were munitions of war. They were shipped by the str. Tseangtah II. Records were produced showing that 14 cases of aeroplanes and fittings had been sent to Hankow under a permit issued by the Ministry of War, which stated that the machines were consigned to a commercial company for commercial purposes.

OTHER AEROPLANES IMPORTED.

Cross-examined by Mr. Schuhl witness said that he had been in the Customs service for more than 20 years and had had some experience with aeroplanes, the Chinese Government having imported machines on previous occasions. The Vickers-Maxim aeroplanes had been imported.

Mr. Schuhl—Do you know whether they were for commercial purposes or otherwise?

Witness—I don't.

Do you not know whether they were for a commercial mail service between Shanghai and Peking?—I don't.

Witness went on to relate that the machines, which had been bonded in Shanghai had been released, by order of the Customs at the order of the Ministry of War, but they were listed as contraband articles. He admitted that radio sets, sulphur, saltpetre, and sporting guns were also included among the list of contraband articles. Shot guns were not. The machines in question were brought to Shanghai from America in June, last year.

Mr. Schuhl—Could they have been shipped on any vessel with the permit you mention?—Yes.

Supposing they had been sent on a British or Japanese ship, could they have been seized by the American authorities?—That is a big question which I cannot answer.

THE SHIPMENT.

Mr. E. H. Yung, assistant shipping clerk in the China Import & Export Lumber Co., produced records of the aeroplane shipment, showing an entry of aeroplanes and accessories by the str. Tseangtah II to Hankow. Witness had made the entry. This was on November 29, and the name of James Slevin was given as shipper. A Chinese handed in a native bank order as payment. Witness had seen Slevin in his office on several occasions about this time and he (Slevin) had in his possession a document to ship the aeroplanes to Hankow. A bill of lading was handed to Slevin.

Cross-examined:—Witness had not told any Chinese friend of the shipment nor did he know the name of the Chinese who paid the bank order. Slevin did not make the shipment, a man named Lawrington did.

Mr. T. P. Cranston, marine superintendent of the China Import & Export Lumber Co. said that, in accordance with instructions from the company's shipping manager, he asked the captain whether or not 14 large cases could be shipped and the latter replied in the affirmative.

The cases were put on board the vessel and no attempt was made to hide them. In fact, they could not be hidden at all. They were too large. Witness knew the cases contained aeroplanes and parts.

NO POSSIBLE DOUBT WHATEVER.

Mr. Edwin S. Cunningham, U.S. Consul-General, was next called.

Major Holcomb—Mr. Cunningham, Are you married?

Witness—I think so.

What is your nationality? American?—Oh, yes, yes, yes.

Witness went on to tell that he first met Slevin last Summer, when the latter came to his office in connexion with the procuring of a permit, or *huchao*, for the import of aeroplanes into China. Slevin had a permit from the American Government. The permit was for export to China and transshipment to Foochow. Witness advised Slevin to go to Peking to get a *huchao* before sending the aeroplanes inland, because the necessary permission for the import of the machines should come from the Chinese Government and not from the U.S. Consul-General. It would expedite shipment also. Witness did not know whether the aeroplanes were for military purposes, but he understood that they were for commercial purposes. He had taken Slevin's word and was satisfied that the American Government would not have permitted the export of the machines were it known that they were for military purposes. Witness had advised Dr. Schurman, the American Minister to Peking, to assist Slevin in getting a permit.

In answer to Mr. Schuhl, witness said that he did not recall having heard of the Foochow Motor Bus Co.

Capt. H. Palleson, master of the Tseangtah II, admitted that he carried on board his vessel the 14 cases, which were unloaded under ordinary circumstances. He understood that the cases contained aeroplane parts.

The prosecution rested here, and Mr. Schuhl's motion for a dismissal on the ground of insufficient evidence was overruled.

ACCUSED'S EVIDENCE.

The accused, James Slevin, was then called by Mr. Schuhl. He described his occupation as being an advisory one in the matter of the organization of commercial transport service, and went on to say that as a result of certain conversations with Mr. C. M. Kees, president of the Curtiss Aeroplane Corporation, regarding proposals in connexion with commercial aviation in China by Chinese, he came here last year. A letter from Mr. Kees and a contract signed between Mr. Kees and certain Chinese financiers, both of which were produced, would confirm this. Witness came also as a result of a satisfactory reply received from Mr. Charles E. Hughes, the U.S. Secretary of State, in reply to his inquiry whether or not commercial aviation in China was permitted.

Witness said that at subsequent conversations with Mr. Kees six tentative routes were drawn up.

These included lines (1) between Ningpo, Shanghai, Soochow, River Ports, Hankow and Tientsin; (2) between Hankow, Paoting, Peking, Kalgan Urga and Kiachta; (3) from Hankow over the old Imperial road to Changsha and thence to Canton; (4) between Amoy, Changchow, Chuangchowfu, Foochow, Yenping and Changsha; (5) between Amoy, Taipei (Formosa), Taiwan, and Pagoda Anchorage; and (6) along the coast between Shanghai, Tsinanfu, over the Shantung Peninsula, and Tientsin, there to join up with the Hankow-Peking route. The Changsha-Canton route was held in abeyance on account of the disturbed conditions, this being agreed upon by Mr. Kees in order that the aeroplanes should not fall into the hands of the militia.

Mr. Schuhl—Who ordered the aeroplanes and guaranteed payment to the Curtiss Corporation?—

Witness:—A Mr. Lim King-jim.

You received no compensation from Lim?—No. I did receive G.\$12,000 from the Curtiss Co. to go round the world and observe flying conditions, on the understanding that I would be employed permanently later.

NO DEALINGS WITH THE MILITARY.

Have you ever had any dealings with Gen. Wu Pei-fu or Gen. Chang Tso-lin?—Never, nor with any other military official in China. The only man I have had any dealings with who has military connexions is Admiral Phelps.

When application was made to carry out this commercial project, said witness, a map was filed with the State Department. The Aeronautical Department knew that the machines, were for non-military purposes:—they were intended for commercial purposes only:—and they were not fitted with machine guns or military equipment.

After witness had described the different types of aeroplanes, he mentioned that Lim, whose family was reputed to be the owners of \$68,000,000 started the Motor Bus Co., which had a subsidy from the Foochow Post Office. This was the company for which the machines were ordered. Witness later went with the American Minister to the Ministry of War and discussed the shipment. The cases were shortly afterwards sent up river, and later witness was placed under arrest by Admiral Phelps, but was given absolute freedom on board an American gunboat.

AMELIORATING CONDITIONS.

Cross-examined by Major Holcomb, accused said that he had been instructed by Mr. Kees to see that the machines did not get into military hands. He was responsible for his own actions and the Curtiss Co was in no way responsible for his personal business. He was not representing the Curtiss Co., but he had a duty to them, to the Chinese promoters, and himself. He did everything in good faith and thought he was taking a good and worthy part in fighting against famine, etc. He wished to do something to ameliorate the sad conditions, due to lack of transport and good roads.

He knew nothing about the Chinese army but heard about the commercial service between Peking and Peitaiho. Things went too far when the American Minister warned him against the shipment, which had already been made. The American authorities everywhere had treated him with the utmost courtesy and had placed every facility at his disposal. A suggestion had been made to him when he was in Peking that he should change his plans and have the service in north China instead of in Foochow, the reason given being that Dr. Sun was starting another turmoil in the south which would make the scheme an unprofitable one. Witness tried to persuade the promoters of the scheme to look at the situation from the view of the Legation.

TOO SLOW FOR BOMBING.

P. L. Crovat, a former lieutenant in the American Army, said that he was secretary of the Aeronautical Society of China, and had had 3½ years in aeronautics, having flown in the Curtiss JN4, which was the subject of the present dispute. He was of opinion that the machine was not a war machine because it was too slow for bombing and manoeuvring, and it was used mostly for commercial purposes. A special arrangement would have to be attached in order to drop bombs from it while in the air, but it was impossible to use it as a bombing plane. Nowadays the JN4 was used for training and commercial purposes.

Cross-examined by the acting District Attorney, witness stated that he owned a JN4 machine when he was in England, but he did not know if the Chinese army used it or would use it for military purposes.

"They would be fools," he stated. He did not go into the matter of the use of the machine in China.

Corroborative evidence was given by Mr. Lloyd Lehrbas, who formerly held a commission as lieutenant in the American Army. He said that the Chinese army could not attach the special equipment for bombing purposes without the aid of an expert.

Major Holcomb—Can you attach this equipment?—No.

Then you are not much of an expert.

Captain H. L. Gallop, U.S.A., said that he had served throughout the war and had flown in practically every kind of British, French and American machine. His flying experience began in 1912. After affirming that the machines could not be used for bombing purposes, witness described the sale of six machines to Lim, Slevin's name being used in connexion with the affair for protective reasons. Slevin was not in New York at the time the permits were issued, and he had later asked witness why his name appeared on the boxes, etc. The JN4 was called the Ford of the Air and might be compared as a Ford motor car would with a Rolls-Royce, or the Chinese army with the British army.

This concluded the evidence and judgment was reserved.

U. S. COURT FOR CHINA

U. S. v. Greenstone

In this case, before Judge C. S. Lobingier on Monday afternoon, Major C. P. Holcomb, acting District Attorney, asked that the accused be arraigned. He was unable to go on with the case at the present time owing to the fact that the complaining witness was in Tientsin. Counsel has written a letter asking the complaining witness, through the American Consul-General, to come to Shanghai as the case was to come up for trial. The accused was then arraigned, the charge being that he obtained the sum of \$4,750 from Bruno Arndt on September 11 last by means of false pretences. A plea of not guilty was entered.

Mr. M. L. Heen, for the defence, said he did not strongly oppose a postponement of the trial, but would leave the matter in the hands of the Court. Counsel drew attention to the fact that his client had voluntarily surrendered upon learning that there was a warrant for his arrest and that he had made no attempt to leave the jurisdiction of the court.

The case was then set down for hearing on the 13th instant, it being intimated that, if the complaining witness does not appear at that time the charge will be dismissed.

U. S. v. C. Gunther

The charge of assault preferred by W. H. Chen against C. Gunther was further investigated in the United States Court for China, on Wednesday, before Judge C. S. Lobingier. The prosecution was conducted by Major C. P. Holcomb, acting District Attorney. Mr. Franklin appeared for the defence and Chief Inspector Vaughan watched the case on behalf of the police.

The postmaster of the Chinese Post Office, North Szechuen Road, said that he saw a fight going on outside the door. He saw the defendant strike some Chinese. The defendant struck first.

In cross-examination, the witness said that he did not see any one strike the defendant at all. When the complainant came in to buy stamps the defendant pulled his hand and told him to get out of the way. The complainant went and defendant went after him and struck him.

Defendant in evidence, said that, when he went into the office, Chen was resting on the counter, with a handbag, talking to a clerk. Witness asked for room to post his letters and complainant replied:—"What do you want?" He called witness some dirty names and made reference to "these—foreigners;—German," adding:—"I will fix you up, you will see." A little fellow outside hit witness on the face. Witness denied that he called complainant insulting names, or that he threatened to assault him. A young man had his coat off and said:—"You come out."

Counsel—Did you strike Chen or Young first?—No. I had my over-

coat in my right hand and a paper in the left.

Did you strike any body at all?—No. I was hit from behind. I do not know who did it.

Witness added that he was hit about 10 times and he was bleeding all over when a policeman came up. Witness was ill for five days.

Cross-examined, witness was asked whether, on ordinary occasions, he had seen Chinese attack foreigners. He said that he had seen American sailors, not drunk, stripped of all their clothes by ricksha coolies. He was himself assaulted last year by a Chinese with an axe and the man was sent to prison. Witness admitted that he had himself been in gaol over trouble with a policeman. He denied suggestions of other charges against him and said he did not remember ever having been in the German Consular Court or the Mixed Court.

Counsel then summed up and judgement was reserved.

WOMAN'S DEATH BY POISONING

Inquest before U.S. Commissioner

The inquest on the body of Mrs. Josephine Saes, who died at the house of her sister at 26 Tracy Terrace, Route Des Sœurs, at 3 o'clock on Wednesday morning, was held before U.S. Commissioner, Mr. N. E. Lurton and a jury on Thursday afternoon.

Dr. O'Driscoll gave evidence to the effect that he was called by a Mr. Norris to 15 Quinsan Road just before 8 p.m. on Tuesday evening and found Mrs. Saes suffering from what he diagnosed as strychnine poisoning, the muscular constriction and white grains of powder on the table leading him to believe that. The deceased also had told him that she had taken strychnine. He treated the patient with antidotes and administered a stomach wash, potassium permanganate, leaving about 10 o'clock, after the woman appeared normal again.

Mr. A. Barnes, gave evidence, saying that the deceased had telephoned him just after visiting Dr. Panek, about six in the evening, saying that she wanted to see him. While he was eating his dinner, he left to get a water bottle, and when he returned he noticed that something was wrong with Mrs. Saes, and was told that she had taken poison, whereupon Dr. O'Driscoll was called. After the physician left, witness escorted the sick woman to the home of the sister. In response to a question by a jurymen witness admitted that there had been a slight row between him and deceased, several days previously.

Further evidence by Mr. Barnes and Mrs. Tosei Tops, sister to Mrs. Saes, was to the effect, that they undressed the latter and put her to bed about 11 o'clock, where she remained fairly quiet until two hours later. The patient said that she had wanted to do it, and had taken all she had. Later she became noisy and a Russian physician

from the vicinity was called. He gave castor oil and tried to force her to vomit, but was unsuccessful. She struggled against taking the medicine and wanted to die. The end came about 3 o'clock.

Two letters written by the dead woman and the vial were introduced into Court. The first was in the nature of a will, whereby she gave her belongings and the money on deposit in the bank to her sisters and their children. The other, a farewell message scratched on the back of an envelope in Russian, was:—"Tosei, forgive me, Arthur, I die loving you."

The jury brought in a verdict of death by poisoning self administered, some time during the night of February 6 and morning of February 7.

A PATHETIC STORY OF SUICIDE

Russian Woman's Legacy of Her Body for Scientific Study

"Do not bury me, but ring up Dr. Birt, so that he may use my body for scientific study." This was the remarkable request made in a farewell letter read by Mr. Ivanoff and Magistrate Tsang at the Mixed Court inquest last Friday on A. Rosina Lanskaya, whose body was found hanging from her bed at 261 Broadway on Thursday, the circumstances pointing to suicide.

Chief Inspector O'Toole stated that deceased had evidently been driven to take her life through illness and poverty. A few days previously she had expressed a desire to a French detective to commit suicide. She was 45 years of age, had no relatives, and it was believed that she had once worked at the Bureau of Russian Affairs. The police found a letter, obviously written by her, and addressed to a Vladimir Lanti, on the table of her room. The letter read:—

"Everything is false, white, yellow, red, black. Everything is a trifle. Why did you cause me to pretend? That was not fair of you. You know I am very sick and tired of everything, and want a rest from all. Lanskaya was never in gaol, and never will be. She can always die. Do you think it is easy? I have been worrying a long time until I decided to die because I love life too much. But now I can defy everything. Even my shame of you I have been able to overcome. To-morrow I will feel nothing. Do not bury me, but ring up Dr. Birt so that he may use my body for scientific study and as he was unable to find out the illness I was suffering from, I may be of some use. If Dr. Birt is not at home, ring up the hospital. Good-bye. Do not think of me with any bad feeling. If there is another life we will meet again. If not, what then? Daybreak is nearing. I wish you all luck, Lanti. Good-bye.

The deceased, proceeded the Inspector, committed suicide between

12 midnight and 9 a.m. on Thursday morning. No papers which could establish her nationality were found among the deceased's effects.

The Assessor expressed himself as doubtful as to her nationality. He did not believe that she was a Russian, but in the absence of evidence to the contrary funeral expenses would be paid by the Municipal Council.

A verdict was returned that the deceased came to her death by hanging herself.

THE SEIZURE OF ARMS AT A GARAGE

Further Proceedings at the Mixed Court: A Midnight Raid: Judgment Reserved

The seizure of arms and opium at the Fei Lung Motor Garage, Bubbling Well Road, was the subject of further proceedings at the Mixed Court on Thursday, before Mr. Allman (American Assessor) and Magistrate Yui. The accused, Tsung Ah-kung, the proprietor, and Tsung Nyu-tseung, his brother, are charged with being in possession of arms and opium, and also with using motor cars without licences.

Mr. E. T. Maitland, Police legal adviser, conducted the prosecution, and Dr. O. Fischer, Mr. P. F. Faison, Mr. C. S. Franklin and Mr. H. R. Snyder appeared for the defence, while Mr. R. C. Faithfull (also instructed by the defendants) held a watching brief.

On the application of Mr. Snyder, all witnesses were ordered out of Court.

Mr. Franklin said that he wished to renew the application made at the former hearing, before any further testimony was taken. They had heard one witness and had learned the character of the testimony which the prosecution intended to produce. Accused were charged with two offences—having arms in their possession, and having opium in their possession. They admitted having arms, and they admitted having opium. It seemed a waste of time to prolong the matter further. One witness on the stand had stated that at certain times cars passed certain places, etc. Unless the prosecution could bring some real evidence to show intention, it was a waste of time to proceed.

Mr. Maitland said it was his duty to put all the evidence before the Court, and he intended to prove conclusively what the accused's intention was.

STORY OF THE RAID.

Sgt. O'Dwyer was then called and stated that about 11 p.m. on January 5 a party of police left Bubbling Well Station and proceeded in a motor car to the Rubicon Road. They got there about midnight and found two motor cars at the end of Rubicon Road, near Soochow Creek. The cars were numbered 162 and 6149, and they had no lights. The police stopped their car some distance

away and then put their headlights on to the cars they had seen. They could see plainly that there were some people in these cars. The police alighted and after leaving the road, held a consultation as to how to proceed. After about 15 minutes they made a rush on the two cars. In No. 162 witness found that the cushions and the rear seating frame had been removed. The tail number plate was missing. Witness saw one man alone in the car—the second accused, Tsung Nyu-tseung. Witness had a conversation with him, at first through a Chinese policeman, and later by himself. Witness understood Chinese and the second accused understood English. P. C. Spence heard the final part of the conversation. The second accused made a rambling statement as to why the tail plate and cushions were missing. In the last conversation witness asked the man what he was doing there and told him he was not a chauffeur and did not drive cars. The man replied "I believe we are here for the purpose of carrying opium, but it does not belong to me." He went on to say that the opium came down the creek in small boats, but he did not think it would come now, as the men knew already that the Police were on the job. He added that if witness would let him alone, he would telephone to the Police the next time that opium was expected to arrive. He knew the man who brought the opium and knew that he was a loafer. Witness knew that the second accused was the brother of the proprietor of the garage.

Cross-examined by Dr. Fischer, witness said that on the night of January 5 he went to the Rubicon Road accompanied by Sgt. Wood, P. C. Spence, Chinese detective 96, a Chinese constable and a chauffeur in Police employ. Car 6149 was nearest to the creek and 162 was behind, both facing the creek. Witness saw that there was a front number, but no tail number. A tail number plate was produced later on. There were several loafers round the car. The second accused was in charge of car 162; he was sitting in the front of the car when witness first saw him. It was 15 minutes before the tail number plate was produced. Witness did not see where it came from. It might have been on the accused's person, or it might have been concealed in the car. When they first saw the car there were several people in it. When the Police got to the car, the other people had left by the opposite side and got into Chinese territory.

AN OPIUM RUNNER.

Three of witness's party were armed with revolvers. A man named Wong was in car 6149. The second accused did not come from the creek. Witness saw him leave the car, but did not see anything in his hands, such as the tail number plate. Witness, Spence, a Chinese detective and the Chinese constable searched car 162. Sgt. Wood searched the other car. The

second accused told witness several lies about the tail plate and the cushions, and contradicted himself three times. He said at first that he had brought a Chinese party to attend a wedding dinner. Then he said he was waiting for a friend from Soochow. When witness questioned him again he said that he believed he was there to carry opium, etc. Witness did not arrest the man then, but reported the matter at the Station when he came off duty. He had reasons for not arresting the man just then.

Cross-examined by Mr. Franklin, witness said that they arrested no armed men that night. The second accused was not armed, and there were no arms in the car. The man in charge of the other car said that he was the driver. The second accused told witness that he had brought a man out there who he believed was dealing in opium, as the man had a bad reputation but seemed to have plenty of money. He said he suspected this man was bringing opium to Shanghai.

P. C. Spence gave evidence of being one of the police party that went to Rubicon Road on the night of January 5. They reached the junction of Rubicon and Hung-jao Roads about 11.45 p.m. and saw two motor cars parked there. They raided the two cars. Witness heard Sgt. O'Dwyer question the second accused through the Chinese constable. Sgt. O'Dwyer then had a conversation with the second accused in English. The latter admitted that they were there for opium, but said it did not belong to him. He promised to ring up the Police to tell them when the next opium was expected.

By Dr. Fischer—When the conversation in English took place, the Chinese constable was probably about 15 yards away. The man Wong, in car 6149, said that he was waiting for a wedding party which had gone across the creek. The second accused said the same thing when first questioned.

Mr. M. O. Springfield, Assistant Commissioner of Police, stated that at 4.20 p.m. on January 5 he went along Yuyuen Road to the Rubicon, and near the junction of Brenan and Yuyuen Roads saw cars 162 and 87. Car 87 was a large, dark seven-seater, presumably a Cadillac. He could not recognize anyone in it. In 162 he saw Tsung Ah-kung. Both cars were going at a slow pace. Later, when coming back from the Rubicon, near the former Rubicon Club he saw car 1491 going west. It was a closed Hupmobile and was travelling 25 to 30 miles an hour. On January 18 witness went to search the Fei Lung garage and found other police already there. Head Constable Gibson (Specials) called witness to the store room and there showed him some pieces of torn paper. Witness took charge of these and afterwards had them pieced together (produced). In the far eastern room they found in a drawer several pistol stocks of wood (produced). Witness had no conversation with the accused.

Cross-examined by Mr. Snyder, witness said that the pieces of paper appeared to be those of papers that had been folded and then torn up. He did not find the names of the accused in these documents. The pistol stocks were not arms in themselves.

AT THE GARAGE.

Mr. H. E. Gibson, Head Constable of the Special Police Reserves, said that he arrived at the Fei Lung garage about 7.30 a.m. on January 18, together with the rest of the search party. They proceeded to search the premises. In the store room upstairs he noticed that the first accused was continually following them round, and occasionally stopped near the electric light switch. Witness watched him and noticed him tear up some documents and throw the torn papers on the floor. Witness and Mr. Springfield afterwards picked up these and Mr. Springfield took charge of them. Witness identified the documents now produced as being those he picked up in torn pieces. The man who tore up the papers was put under arrest.

In cross-examination, witness said that the documents were apparently forms of contracts, but bore no signatures or dates, and no money figures were inserted in them.

Evidence was given by Sgt. Sullivan, Mr. W. Beatty, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Inspector Coghlan, Inspector Gibson and Inspector Fairbairn, Inspector Gibson stating that when the accused's safe was opened in his presence it was found to contain a bomb.

With reference to the search of the Fei Lung garage, Mr. Beatty testified that after the proprietor had denied that there were any arms or opium on the premises, two automatic pistols, several rounds of revolver ammunition, a few rounds of rifle ammunition, a small quantity of opium, and some opium-smoking paraphernalia were found in the upper part of the premises. Witness also saw the proprietor of the garage tearing up some papers. Neither of the accused made any explanation of the presence of the revolvers except that one of them said that his wife was afraid of burglars and the pistols were for self-protection.

This closed the case for the prosecution.

Dr. Fischer said that he did not propose to call the accused to give evidence. They simply admitted the possession of the arms and opium that had been seized.

Mr. Snyder then made application for the dismissal of the charges, pointing out that Article 205 of the Chinese Criminal Code did not apply as there was no proof whatever that the arms seized had been imported for military use, and that the opium found was a small quantity for accused's own personal use.

The Assessor said that the Court would not dismiss the charges at this stage, in view of the fact that the accused had admitted possession

of the arms and opium.

Mr. Maitland then summed up for the prosecution and Mr. Franklin replied for the defence, after which the Court reserved judgment.

VISCOUNT DE VILLA AGAIN IN COURT

Further Hearing of Charge of Fraud in Connexion with Gold Exchange

E. M. di Villa was brought before Magistrate Li and Mr. S. Tanaka, Japanese Assessor, at the Mixed Court on Thursday, on remand, the charge against him reading as follows:—

S. Sugiura, assignee of all the assets and liabilities of the International Gold & Silver Currency, Stock & Produce Exchange, Ltd., in liquidation, complains that E. M. di Villa (non-nationality) on or about October 17, 1921, did at the Far Eastern Bank, 38 Kiang-se Road, Shanghai, unlawfully and fraudulently obtain the sum of \$50,000, taking advantage of his directorship conspired together with another named Nien Sung-tung from the accounts of the above exchange under false pretences and by false receipt that the fee for registration of the said exchange in the Consulate-General for Italy in Shanghai was \$100,000, instead of \$50,000, the fact having been revealed that \$25,000 of the sum above-mentioned were misappropriated into his own possession.

Messrs. T. Kikuchi and Yano appeared for the prosecution and Mr. J. G. Priestwood represented the defence.

A SEARCH FOR PAPERS.

Mr. T. Shiota, cross-examined by Mr. Priestwood, stated that he had searched for the articles of incorporation of the exchange among the papers he had received from di Villa, but could find none. He had asked di Villa repeatedly for all of the papers but was continually put off, an English translation finally being handed to him. A copy of this was made by witness and sent to Tokio. He did know that according to Italian law three copies of the memorandum of incorporation should have been supplied by the Italian Consul-General. Witness had heard from a Mr. Nien that the papers were supposed to have been entrusted to di Villa. Nien was vice-president of the exchange. Asked whether it was not a fact that Nien had been charged in the Japanese Court with embezzlement, witness said he did not know. Nien was at present in Tokio.

The question of the receipt for registration of the company in the Italian Consulate was next discussed at length. Witness said that he examined the receipt when it was handed to him and it was the same as at present. He did not know that according to Italian

it. He trusted di Villa implicitly and it was only when he went to the Italian Consulate that he noticed an alteration. Witness suggested that the alteration has been made by di Villa because payment was made by him and the receipt was signed by him. If di Villa had only paid \$50,000, said witness, he would have marked an entry in the balance sheet.

DEFENDANT'S TITLE.

Mr. Priestwood—In direct examination you suggested that di Villa is not a viscount. Do you still suggest that he is not entitled to be called such even by courtesy? Do you think he called himself such so that he could get into people's confidence and cheat them?—Witness: Yes.

Do you know the Japanese Consul-General inquired from the Italian Consulate-General whether he was an Italian and whether he held the title of viscount?—I heard something about it.

Do you know what the reply was?—Mr. de Rossi replied that di Villa was not a viscount of Italy, that for some time before he was a protégée of Italy, but that at the time of the letter he was no longer afforded the protection of the Italian Consulate-General.

Did the letter say that his grandfather was a viscount?—I don't know.

Continuing, witness said he did not remember what sum had been allotted by the exchange for organization expenses. That was decided at a promoters' meeting before he had anything to do with the exchange. He had never seen di Villa's letter to the promoters on August 12, which the defence alleged was introduced as evidence in the Japanese Court, telling them that if the capital of the company was \$5,000,000, the consular fee would be \$14,000. Witness understood that this was to be the fee for the entire capital, not only the paid up amount. Everybody understood that the registration fee was \$100,000.

POWERS OF DEDUCTION.

Mr. Priestwood—When you tell us that \$25,000 was paid into di Villa's account, have you any evidence to show that it was from the \$50,000, or was it another sign of your wonderful powers of deduction? Witness—My deductions. On the night we asked di Villa what he had done with the \$50,000 he said had paid Mr. Musso. He tried to find the receipt but failed to do so, therefore he must have divided the money. He knew it was not paid. He said the money was paid to Musso as a fee.

Re-examined by Mr. Kikuchi, witness said that Mr. Chu Lan-fong was chairman of the board of directors of the exchange. Nien was in charge of Japanese and Chinese interests and di Villa, as vice-president of the exchange, handled all matters regarding registration in the Italian Consulate-General.

The case was adjourned.

NEWS FROM THE MUNICIPAL GAZETTE

SHANGHAI, FEBRUARY 8, 1923

Volunteer Corps.

Customs Company.—Private C. Neprud to be Second Lieutenant.

Water Supply.

Further correspondence with the Waterworks Company in continuation of that set forth in the Gazette of November 16, 1922:—

Shanghai, January 18, 1923.

SIR,—I am directed to refer to your letter of August 10, 1922, on the subject of the purchase by the Municipal Council of the water supply undertaking.

My Directors will be glad to know if they are correct in the assumption that the statement of the price at which they will be prepared to recommend the shareholders to sell the Company's "business and undertaking and all the lands, buildings, plant, machinery and effects" is not to include the value of the business, plant and effects appertaining to the Fittings and Shipping Departments of the Company.

F. B. PITCAIRN,

Engineer-in-Chief & Manager,

Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.

N. O. LIDDELL, Esq.,

Secretary and Commissioner
General, Municipal Council.

Municipal Staff.

Volunteer Corps.—The resignation of Colonel R. Marr Johnson, C.M.G., D.S.O., Commandant of Volunteers, is accepted with effect from February 24, 1923.

Fire Brigade Report for December.

The total number of calls received was 63, this being the highest number the Brigade has ever had during the course of one month. Of this number 55 proved to be genuine fires, 48 of which occurred within the Settlement and 7 outside. The remaining 8 were either false alarms or not traced and 3 fires were due to the faulty construction of chimneys. The damage on assessed property within the Settlement was estimated at Tls. 43,005, whilst the property at risk was estimated at Tls. 1,528,850. Three lives were lost and four persons injured; in addition 1 officer and 6 men were injured in an accident which occurred to one of the machines on its way to attend a fire outside the Settlement. 8 houses were destroyed and 35 damaged. Machines travelled approximately 510 miles, hose used amounted to 41,500 feet and the time occupied was approximately 318 hours.

December 3, 1.21 a.m. I 458 Chekiang Road (Wood Shaving Shop).—A call was received to the above premises and on arrival of the Central Division, No. 458 was found to be well alight on the ground and first floors and the fire spreading to the adjoining premises Nos. 457 and 459. The fire

was apparently caused by a boy accidentally upsetting an oil lamp. The outbreak was quickly subdued but on investigation afterwards the bodies of 1 woman and 2 men were found in the rear of the premises, they evidently having been trapped by the flames in front, there being no exit at the rear.

December 4, 8.21 a.m. 31 Markham Road (Cotton Godown).—On arrival of the Sinza Division, smoke was found pouring from the windows of this 2 storied building and even before the Brigade could lay on, the roof fell in. Numerous jets were quickly got to work and after a short fight the fire was held and extinguished.

December 8, 2.32 a.m. JH1842 Tongshan Road (Contractor's yard).—When the Yangtseepoo Division arrived at the above place the flames were found to be spreading so quickly that it was decided to send in a call for assistance and a section from Central at once responded. The Brigade managed to confine the fire to where they found it, the surrounding property only receiving very slight damage.

December 9, 3.31 p.m. JE 1844 Tongshan Road (Silk Factory).—A call was received to the above premises which were found to be well alight on the arrival of the Hongkew Division. The fire was surrounded and after an hour's hard fight all trouble was at an end.

December 22, 5.41 a.m. 120 Stone Bridge Road (cigarette shop).—A very late call must have been given to this fire as when the Sinza Division arrived no less than 10 houses were involved. Both pumps were quickly got to work and the fire held and finally extinguished.

Return of Communicable Disease.

Reported during the week ending Sunday, February 4, 1923.	Cases notified from within Settlement limits (population 20,750)	Deaths among Chinese resident population of 814,000
Small-pox	1	0
Cholera	0	0
Typhoid Fever	0	—
Paratyphoid Fever	2	—
Diphtheria	1	0
Scarlet Fever	0	3
Tuberculosis	0	17
Plague	0	0
Dysentery	0	0
Total Deaths from all Causes	6	170



UNDER THE LAMP

Table Talk

Books upon the subject of diet are so (comparatively) numerous that one must infer the existence of a very considerable number of people making a serious study of their daily bread. For the most part we belong to the School of Solomon. So long as a man be not visited with the Carlylean calamity, the general are content to take care of the table and let the chemistry of digestion take care of itself. Less than the lilies of the field do they toil (to make their digestive organs beautifully efficient). If things go wrong, they visit a doctor, got well (if they are fortunate) pay well (if they are rich), and quite forget that many, perhaps most, of their ills have been due to personal negligence in the art of eating scientifically. Those readers who may have frittered away a number of years in feeding themselves unscientifically, and now desire to repent them of their sins, will do well to procure a copy of Dr. Cecil Webb-Johnson's "Diet for Women," (Mills & Boon, London). There is much in it for the instruction of a mere man. He writes as one with authority and the little book is uncommonly interesting. It is extremely improbable that those who have been accustomed to three unscientific meals a day will as they read resolve to live henceforth according to Thoreau and Eustace Miles, but at least they may be expected to contemplate future menus in a chastened mood.

HAVE A BANANA!

Dr. Webb-Johnson begins with the cheering indictment that over-eating is one of the curses of modern civilization. We have too many meals a day, consume too much at a meal, and generally eat the wrong thing—needs must science come to the rescue. There is no valid reason, says Science, why we should not live almost entirely on a diet of fruit combined with grains, nuts and raw vegetables. Strength and endurance can be increased, and causes of sickness greatly decreased, by this simple diet. The peculiar and popular belief that an apple a day keeps the doctor away is based strictly on scientific fact. Dr. Webb-Johnson demonstrates this. So that a man wisely using a good orchard might seriously rival "Old Parr," who lived for 152 years and incontinently died through over-eating at a Royal Banquet. Meat is the enemy. They who consume meat in the belief that it is essential to the maintenance of physical strength are labouring under a great

delusion. Apparently, a banana is as nourishing, as it is far less dangerous, than a beef steak. In any case, meat should never be taken more than once a day and should be neglected entirely on one day in every week. And of all meats, pork is the most unwholesome, as Moses well knew.

EAT LESS AND LIVE LONGER.

Dr. Webb-Johnson tells us that physically and anatomically man was intended by nature to be a fruit-eating animal. If this be really so, nature and morals must be singularly at variance, for was it not an apple which was the cause of the trouble on a certain historic occasion? Nevertheless, our author plumps for the apple, the King of Fruits. This fruitarian theory is worth considering, happily "the pear-shaped man" is always among us to keep the matter in mind. But we have strayed so far from this ideal that return to the orchard is impossible, and it is even unlikely that we shall compromise to the extent of submitting to vegetarian diet. Recognizing this, Dr. Webb-Johnson simply advises a little care in selection of food, and a great deal of moderation in eating. We must be prepared to agree that we eat about three times as much as the system requires, and as nearly as possible follow the advice of Dr. Abernethy, who instructed a greedy and indulgent patient to "live on 6d. a day, and earn it." There is quoted the saying of Dr. Stephen Smith, that a man who dies before 100 practically dies by his knife and fork. Budding centenarians should please note, and confine themselves strictly to sandwiches.

NERVE STORMS IN THE TEA CUP.

We have said that meat is the enemy. Alcohol is another foe. Cocktails and liqueurs are pernicious and should be avoided. Tobacco in another enemy. Tea is a snare. Temperance people are in for a dreadful shock when they read that "the nerve-shattered tea drinker" eventually must have recourse to alcohol. It is comforting to know that, of all enemies, the worst is excessive indulgence in food or drink. Health and happiness wait on moderation at the table. But, beware of substantial breakfasts. They who so indulge are "throwing a blanket over their brain" for the rest of the day.

RECOMMENDED

The Deaves Affair, by Hulbert Footner (Collins, 7s. 6d. net), is a readable and rapidly moving story by a well-known concocter of American sleuth tales. Evan Weir, a

poor but honest and athletic artist, rescues Simeon Deaves, a miserly millionaire, from an unpleasant crowd in a New York slum, and is forthwith retained by Simon's family at \$40 a week to accompany the old man on his rambles and keep him out of the mischief and publicity to which his meanness is constantly exposing him. George Deaves, the son, is being blackmailed by a mysterious society who extract large sums from him on the threat of publishing unpleasant stories about his father; and part of Weir's job is to track down the blackmailers. In the meantime, Corinna Playfair, a red-haired singer with wonderful eyes, has complicated his life by taking rooms in the same boarding-house and reciprocating his love, while insisting that a dark secret prevents her from consenting to marry him. The experienced reader soon guesses that her mystery is connected with the Deaves mystery, but the connexion is skilfully concealed until the close of the book, and there is a breathless succession of exciting incidents leading up to the *dénouement*. Both the love-making and the minor characters have more reality than one expects in books of this kind, and "The Deaves Affair" can be recommended as providing quite a number of agreeable thrills.

ONCE ABOARD THE LUGGER

THE TREASURE OF GOLDEN GAP.—by Bennet Copplestone. John Murray.

Mr. Bennet Copplestone's new book is written in three parts. The first and third deal with the lives of Betty and Dickie Grenville, whom the reader has met and liked before in "The Last of the Grenvilles," the second goes back 300 years, and describes the lives of Richard Nutt and his wife, and their acts of piracy on the high seas—and those leading up to the hiding of the treasure. The author has made the book too long and the readers' interest in the mystery is apt to flag. The constant use of the name "R. Nutt" becomes tiresome, and many of his doings might have been curtailed with advantage. The most interesting part of the story is the middle book. The description of the wrecking of the "Wild Swan" on the coast of Dorset is wonderfully told. The characters are cleverly drawn, especially those of "Marie the Bretonne" and Mercurius Nimrod—the hardy old sailor, and right hand man of Richard Nutt. Richard himself hardly convinces the reader—he is too weak a character to get the full sympathy that he should receive,

and his fall from grace in breaking his marriage promise to his wife, to abstain from piracy, is unconvincing. As long as she was aboard, he would keep straight, but the first time he sails without her, he returns to his old ways. It rings false, as the author tries to make Richard out to be a strong character, but in this he fails. However, the story as a whole is not uninteresting, especially to those who know the South coast of England.

DULCIE AND DEREK

Rulers of Men, by E. W. Savi (Putnam, 7s. 6d. net), is a faithful specimen of what has come to be a recognizable type of second-rate Anglo-Indian novels. There is a mass of incident, mostly concerned with poison, ambush, and sudden death, all of which ministers to the heroism and the glory of Derek Lang, who is as strong and silent a "ruler of men" as his name suggests. Besides this succession of adventures, in which on the whole Mrs. Savi is at her best, we have a love story (extending from the first kiss on page 9 through the usual chaos of misunderstanding and heart-burning to the last—or rather the last recorded—on page 342), and a great deal of theory about Indian unrest which reveals only the author's narrow-mindedness. We have no patience with Dulcie, who persists in believing what is obviously not the truth and whose love apparently contains no element of trust; in any case, most girls would have been only too glad to think their lover a little less impossibly perfect than Mrs. Savi makes him. There is also a great deal of loose writing and even of faulty punctuation, but the author has a trick of getting the full flavour out of her adventures, so that (says the "Westminster Gazette"), the book remains almost readable.

RUSSIA'S RUIN

RECENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN RUSSIA. By K. Leites. (Clarendon Press. 7s. 6d. net.)

This instructive book has been written by a Russian economist formerly attached to the Ministry of Finance, and is published for the Carnegie Endowment under the editorship of Professor Westergaard, of Copenhagen. The author has drawn upon the official reports in the Bolshevik Press for his estimate of the results of Bolshevik economics and for his account of the state of Russia in 1920. In a preliminary chapter he describes the effects of the War on Russian industry up to the revolution of 1917. He admits that the Tsar's Government, by their folly in calling up millions of men whom they could not arm, clothe or feed, disorganized trade, and that the railways were breaking down under the

strain. But he declares that the factories were, on the whole, working well up to 1917, through the efforts of the Zemstvos and the co-operative societies, and that the Russian business community was full of hope even under the Kerensky Government.

The Bolsheviks changed all that. By nationalizing all trade and industry they brought universal ruin on Russia. The peasants ceased to grow more corn than they needed for themselves, the transport services broke down, the workmen deserted the towns and returned to their villages so that many factories had to stop for want of labour as well as for lack of raw material and fuel.

The author's dispassionate narrative of the collapse may be commended to the Labour leaders who inscribed nationalization on their electoral programme. Mr. Leites observes with truth that Russia would have suffered still more had she not been mainly a country of peasant cultivators. "A country with a more highly developed industrial system and more dependent on the importation of raw materials could not have survived for so long a time the various experiments which the Communists have tried in Russia."

THE ENCYCLOPÆDIA

Three New Volumes

THE ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA. Vols. XXX., XXXI., XXXII.

A brief examination of the three additional volumes of the Encyclopædia Britannica leaves little doubt of their excellence. In no period in history have such extraordinary developments and such tremendous events been crowded into a few years as in the decade 1911-1922. Politically and economically the Great War has revolutionized the world, but as well as the more catastrophic changes which the War produced, and often considerably hampered by those changes, there have been remarkable developments in many branches of science and philosophy. The Theory of Relativity and the work of Einstein, the new theories of the Constitution of Matter, the growth of the New Psychology and the practice of Psychoanalysis, are a few of the recent scientific developments which have transformed our conception of existence. All of these are fully treated in the new volumes.

It is impossible to consider such a work in detail. The only method for a short review is to test the volumes under a few headings. Those portions dealing with the War seem, so far as we have been able to judge, to be extremely well done. The matter, as a rule, is not only full of information in great detail and well illustrated by maps, but also vigorous and alive in treatment; it is, in other words, not

merely chronicle but in a real sense history. The side issues of the War also are fully represented. In Volume XXX., for instance, there is an excellent article on Camouflage—the three sections, "Natural" Camouflage, Military Camouflage, and Naval Camouflage are written respectively by Dr. J. C. Mottram, Major F. J. C. Wyatt, the organizer and controller of Camouflage for the British Expeditionary Force, and Mr. Norman Wilkinson, the originator of Dazzle Painting. The middle section is especially interesting. Though cardboard forts and dummy guns have proved short-cuts to victory in the remote past, camouflage as a complicated and systematized art did not exist before the Great War, when the variety of observation to be coped with—observation from land, sea and air, and not only human observation but the much more acute observation of the camera—demanded an endless variety of inventiveness. The methods employed and their gradual development to meet new problems are excellently set out, and the whole section is of the greatest interest.

HISTORY, DRAMA AND SCIENCE.

In the same volume Mr. St. John Ervine writes well on the Drama. Though everyone will not agree with his estimates, the facts are impartially presented and the discussion is good, more especially when he summarizes the more striking changes which have befallen the theatre and theatrical management—the sudden disappearance of the old actor-manager and of the older music-hall type of entertainment and the arrival of the commercial syndicate, the revue and the cinema.

Notable in Volume XXXI. is Professor Alison Phillips's Political History of Ireland—a most valuable and also a most impartial record. We know of no other book where the facts are given with such care and knowledge. His detachment is real, and not that sham impartiality which is afraid of the truth lest it should give the effect of too great a severity. There is, therefore, no undue weight given to the other side, nor are facts omitted in one scale and exaggerated in the other in order to produce a sham balance—a false impression of absolute justice. Particularly sound is Professor Alison Phillips's dealing with the Ulster question.

To Volume XXXII., the third of the new volumes, Dr. J. H. Jeans, F.R.S., contributes the article on Relativity. To say that his account is simple and lucid is to give it the highest praise possible, because it is extremely difficult—as those who have followed the literature on the subject are well aware—to state the theory simply enough to be comprehensible to the ordinary reader.

We must not end without offering the warmest congratulations to Mr. Hugh Chisholm, the editor of the tenth and eleventh editions of the Encyclopædia, for the consistently high standard which he has procured in the new volumes.—The "Spectator."



THE WOMAN'S PAGE



SHANGHAI WOMAN'S CLUB

Its Educational Work Among Chinese Children

By Elizabeth Pepys.

The work of the Shanghai Woman's Club is going on actively this year and although they are meeting only once a month, on the last Monday, they are cooperating with so many other organizations that two or three extra meetings during a month are not unusual. They were one of the organizations which invited Mrs. E. Thompson Seton to speak before them on the woman's rights movement throughout the world and they joined in the recent union meeting to protest against the exclusion of Chinese girls from the indemnity scholarships.

At their regular meetings a lecture is usually given on some subject of special interest to women, their last meeting being addressed by Mr. Wang Tsung-biu on "Chinese Laws Affecting Women." Tea and a social hour precede the business meeting. The Social Service Department is continuing its support and supervision of the schools for poorer Chinese children living in the factory districts, and this year a fourth school has been added to the number. The graduates of the Christian colleges of Shanghai are furnishing the funds for its maintenance, but asked the Club to take charge of it.

While the club has a large membership the average attendance at its meetings is not large, due so one of the leaders said, to the fact that the club idea is so very novel to Chinese women. They have been accustomed to receiving their relatives at home, or visiting in turn, playing games and drinking tea. That women should gather by themselves in a club room is an innovation which appeals to them as abstractly admirable but personally undesirable unless some point in which they are vitally interested is to be taken under consideration. They elect officers in whom they have confidence and leave the management of the club to them even more than do their western sisters. However the club leaven is working and in time the whole membership will be active partners in the work of the organization.

The present officers are: Mrs. T. K. Siao, President; Mrs. George C. Hsu and Miss Zung Wei-Tsung, Vice-Presidents; Mrs. K. H. Chen, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. C. H. Wang, Recording Secretary; Miss Lucy Sung, Treasurer; Mrs. T. T. Wang, Chairman of Social Service Department.

IDLE HANDS

The Tragedy of Nothing to do

By Elizabeth Pepys.

"What can you find to do in this town?" queried a pretty young matron at a recent afternoon tea. The query so startled the writer that she nearly dropped her tea-cup and absent mindedness refused an alluring caviar sandwich. Partially recovering herself, she countered with: "Don't you think there's quite too much to do?" The gasp of astonishment indicated that two irreconcilable points of view had met, and each tightened rein and dug her spurs into her favourite hobby.

"No indeed. At home one could also run up to town for the theatre and concerts and clubs, or down to college or into the country or even over to Paris. Here one stays put and suffocates of ingrowing boredom. Not that I don't like teas—even feminine teas. And of course I like tea dances and evenings at the cafés and clubs. I thought I was going to enjoy managing my house, but that takes about half an hour, in the mornings and the Boy only lets me do that much as a special indulgence.

"Do you belong to the women's clubs?" I asked mildly, to be greeted by an indignant, "Do I look like that sort of a person?"

"But why not?" I insisted. "They have sections enough to suit anyone's taste. You can be sporting, musical, literary, domestic, artistic, sinological philanthropic, horticultural—"

"Stop, stop," she pleaded—"do you imply that I could be any one I chose without bothering with the rest?"

"Precisely."

"Then I might consider it, for I can't play bridge or mahjongg all day, or even golf or ride or shoot or read or write. I keep reading appeals in the papers for work for destitute refugees and the more I read the more impelled I am to start a campaign for job-less wives. If only Jack were in politics and I could make speeches for him, or ill so I could nurse him, or poor so that I'd have to work for him, I'd have considerably more interest in life. It's maddening."

"Are you studying Chinese?" I continued in the questionnaire.

"No. Would that give me a purpose in life?"

"Lots of them. And there's always church work, even out here."

"But I'm not much good at Sunday-School classes, though I might qualify for sales of work."

"Or French? Or Russian? Or Chinese art? Or music? Or teach-

ing English to the Russian Cadets? Or substituting for some over-worked missionary and letting her have one of your leisurely mornings? Or collecting porcelains? Or chow dogs? Or writing a series of articles for the Woman's Page, or—But my friend was edging away" as from an unbalanced person who might become violent at any moment. "Of course if one likes and of those things," she said, vaguely disparaging, "but as for me I'm just counting the days until we can go Home."

LIVES WRECKED BY GOSSIP

By "One Who Has Suffered" in London But Other Victims Have Been Found in Shanghai.

If only gossips realized the evil that they do! Would it deter them? I wonder.

The love of gossip is so deeply engrained in human nature that nothing less than a miracle would kill it. People more than things interest the majority. The most stirring events may be taking place in the outside world. But they fade into insignificance if there is a piece of spicy local gossip going. "Have you heard?" "Do you know?" A mysterious whisper and the damage is done.

Women are supposed to be the worst offenders. Almost every woman is a born gossip. She delights in tittle-tattle. She does not demand proof. It is enough for her to hear a good story which she can pass on. Her imagination gets to work. She remembers things or invents them. When she retells the tale she adds a little colour to it.

MASCULINE GOSSIPS.

But many men are quite as bad. You can hear in men's clubs gossip just as slanderous and venomous as any that passes from woman's mouth. The purveyor usually takes care to protect himself. "I have heard so-and-so from a reliable source," he states. But he does not tell the source.

There are certain men who set themselves out always to hear "the latest," who delight in scandal, and are never so happy as when they have a fresh tit-bit of gossip with which to regale their listeners. They will distort the simplest incident or give to it a sinister significance.

Not that the gossips are always malicious and malignant. More often they are thoughtless and light-hearted. They start a story out of fun or from personal vanity and the desire to be regarded as well-informed.

How many lives have been wrecked by gossip it is impossible to

say. Constantly in the law courts one gets glimpses of the havoc wrought. But for every case made public 10 never see the light of day.

"THEY SAY."

There are calumnies that are hard or impossible to refute. And even the successful refutation in a court of law often leaves the victim under a cloud.

"There is no smoke without fire," people say.

To bring an action, whether successful or unsuccessful, may involve the prosecutor in ruinous costs. It may happen that the defendant is a person of straw and the injured one has to pay the costs of litigation.

A man may have to stand his trial for any crime from murder downwards, through gossip, and be absolutely free of any offence except that he has got himself talked about.

A woman may have her reputation torn to shreds and never have a chance of vindicating it—through gossip.

"Done to death by slanderous tongues."

NURSERY OUTFITS

Careful Designs for Youngsters' Costumes

In this day and age clothes for tiny tots are as carefully designed, and as much the inspiration of artists as are their grownup sister's and brother's. Every type of youngster has been considered and infinite tenderness and understanding has been put into the designing of their new clothes.

Little hand-made garments are as ever the choice of many mothers, and these are fashioned of a much finer batiste than was ever used before.

Their daintiness leaves a lasting impression, for the embroideries are exquisite, lace and drawn work are very effectively used, and also tiny pin tucks and French knots are much in evidence.

The cunningest little capes for babies are fashioned of organdie and show as their trimmings, real lace edgings, pin tucks and feather stitching. Organdie has proved more successful than batiste for bonnets too, as this material with its crisp daintiness retains its shape.

When baby goes to a party she is dressed in pastel shades or white and though her choice in colours is limited, she does insist that her little frock be fashioned of either dotted swiss, organdie, crepe de chine or French voile. She is not limited to one trimming either, but may have it embroidered hemstitched, or smocked this season, or if she prefers, lace edging, self ruffles, or applique.

JUVENILE PARTY FROCKS.

Littlest sister, who is past the crawling stage, may find her party frock as elaborate as her big sisters, if she does not favour the simpler

styles especially designed for her. It will probably be sleeveless, and if it follows the mode of so many, will have openwork at the shoulder seams. Her play dress, however, is most often made of pongee, English print or gingham, and to these little dresses there are almost always attached bloomers of the same fabric.

One of the shops shows an unusual little frock of dark blue linen. Its bonnet of self material has a childish strip fastening under the chin. The clusters of field buttercups caught at the waist and on the hat might have been gathered by little hands and applied to suit the youthful fancy.

The simplicity of the two types of frocks requiring bloused guimpes is very smart indeed. There are those made with bretelle suspenders from the waistline up and those that originated from the women's sleeveless frock of last year. Although most of the cunning little bloused guimpes worn with them are white poplin or soisette, checked gingham makes adorable little tailored



blouses. And these are finished with tiny plaited trimming just like mother's.

Whatever the frock or the age of the child wearing it, its simplicity of design stands out as nothing else does. In that respect, clothes of tiny folk resemble grownups more than ever before. Moreover the younger generation to-day seem, even before they reach the sub-deb stage, to have acquired a discriminating taste that is hardly excelled by their parents in the selection of their grownup wardrobes.

LADY BATHURST

The World's Greatest Woman Newspaper Owner

The late Lord Northcliffe in his book on "English Newspapers and their Millionaire Owners," which he published shortly before his death, referred to Lady Bathurst, director of the "Morning Post," of London, as "the most powerful woman in England, without exception other than royalty."

Every one admires courage, and this quality, so pronounced in the brilliant director of the "Morning Post," has made her a dominant

figure, not only in journalistic circles, but in the political life of England as well.

The "Morning Post" has often taken issue with Lloyd George and other political leaders of the country, and when any Parliamentary action has been taken which it believed was not for the best interests of the country it has editorially said so in no soft terms.

This titled and brilliant newspaper owner, like Lady Rhondda, represents in her success undoubted proof of the ability of daughters of genius to safeguard and direct the great interests handed down to them by illustrious parents.

Lady Rhondda, the world's greatest business woman, a director in more than thirty corporations and companies, inherited these vast interests from her father, the late D. A. Thomas, the Welsh coal operator.

Lady Bathurst took over the control of the "Morning Post" at the death of her father, the late Lord Glenesk.

JOURNALISTIC IDEAS.

When questioned as to her idea of what a great daily newspaper should represent Lady Bathurst replied as follows: "My ideas about Journalism are as simple and crude that they would be of no interest in this complicated world. They are merely to stand by the right and expose what is wrong. I think papers have much power, but there is much I should like to see corrected. I should like all sensational divorce and other criminal cases cut out and the mere facts that so and so are divorced printed, and the result mentioned as a matter for regret and shame by the guilty party, and no unwholesome details." (A committee of distinguished men are now conferring together in London for the purpose of obtaining this end—that sensational divorce cases shall not be exploited in the newspapers.)

"I should like," Lady Bathurst further wrote, "to see more literature, more wit, more information of a really interesting character, such as scientific matter, garden, farm, painting, music, and less sensationalism. In fact, the ideal would be that a paper should contribute to people's happiness and sanity and not to excite all their worst feelings.

"As for politics, the paper must of necessity reflect the bias of its owner's and editor's minds, but if it is perfectly truthful and sincere it matters not whether it is Conservative, Liberal, or Labour, Republican or Democrat. We all like an opponent we can respect.

"It is the man or the paper that suppresses the truth to serve his own ends and who lies glibly that we cannot tolerate. These are my simple views, and, simple as they are, I believe in them; and, what is more, I know that if you go straight ahead and fear not, on what you believe to be the straight road, it's wonderful what you can achieve."

FROM THE FOUR WINDS

AMERICA DEVOURING HER WEALTH

British Expert's Account of Her Reckless Consumption of Natural Resources

New York, Jan. 8.

The London correspondent of the Associated Press writes:—

America's demand for her own natural resources—oil, metals, cotton and the like—is so great that a world-wide shortage of these commodities is foreseen; while an economic crisis, even a collapse, is predicted for the United States as a result of the insatiable and voracious consumption of the raw materials of the country, according to Sir E. Mackay Edgar, the well-known British industrialist and financier, who has returned to London from his annual visit to America.

All countries will be affected, but the United States most of all, and the best policy for Great Britain, according to the observer is to develop and keep under British control as many physical assets as possible all over the world. If that is done, America will have to come to Great Britain for some of the indispensables of life, and industry.

UNEQUALLED PRODIGALITY.

"In all the years I have known America," said Sir Edward, "I have never been so struck as during the last two months by her prodigality. Americans have long been the champion spenders of the world, but now they are making all previous records in that line look silly. It is not merely money they are throwing about, but everything—copper, cotton, zinc, lead, timber—you can hardly name any of the staples of industry that they are not literally devouring. It is an amazing spectacle.

"In America you have 130,000,000 people feverishly tearing from the earth its irreplaceable wealth and using it to maintain a rate of growth utterly without precedent in human history. This terrible consuming power is the biggest economic fact in the world to-day. It is terrible because it is already outrunning production. Before long, while the demand will be as voracious as ever, the supply will have run short. Then there will be a smash."

Sir Edward recalled that in 1914 America produced about 65 per cent. of the world's supply of cotton, oil, copper, lead and zinc.

Then America consumed roughly about 35 per cent. of the total supplies. To-day, while she is producing relatively the same, her consumption of these commodities amounts to over half of the world's

output. Ten years from now America will be producing relatively less and consuming relatively more. She will be producing about half the world's output; she will be consuming something like 70 per cent. of it. In other words, she will have to import.

It is difficult for an Englishman to imagine the United States importing cotton. Yet this is going to happen, according to this British industrialist.

COTTON AND OIL SHORT.

"Do you realize that America is this year using in her own mills about 70 per cent. of her cotton crop?" Sir Edward asked an interviewer. "Before the war she used 20 per cent. It seems that the time is coming when there will be precious little American cotton for the rest of the world to buy. The Southerners seem to think that they do better with small crops fetching high price. What Lancashire, England's textile district, is going to do to obtain raw material for her huge mills I honestly do not know."

America already has reached the importing stage in oil, and in five years she will be taking in from abroad, if she can get it, not far short of a billion barrels, according to Sir Edward's calculations.

"That is what she will require if her present rate of consumption continues," he said. "It is with oil as with cotton, copper, lead and zinc,—the world is nearing a shortage not far removed from famine because of the voracity of American demand.

THE POLICY FOR BRITAIN.

"Our business as Britons," concluded Sir Edward, "is to sit tight on what we have and to exploit all the oil, cotton and metal possibilities of the non-American world. In that way we shall do more than safeguard our own positions. We shall be able to supply America with the commodities she must have to keep going. She will have to come to us for some of the essential means of livelihood. It will be a costly experience for her, but, so far as I can see, America cannot escape it."—Reuter.

SINCE a fatal attack by a shark on an old Malay diver took place at Singapore on January 16, attempts have been made to capture some of the man-eaters. The crew of the launch Sunstar was successful in hooking one which measured nine feet. Another large-sized ferralé, measuring seven feet, was caught by the crew of the motor launch Solomon II, just outside the breakwater near to the spot where the Malay was killed.

BAFFLING BURGLARS

Flame-Proof Plates and Time Locks

The latest devices to outwit the scientific burglar were described by Mr. H. Emory Chubb, one of the managing directors of the firm of locksmiths and safemakers of that name, in a lecture illustrated by cinematograph at the Royal Society of Arts on "Recent Developments in the Manufacture of Safes and Strong Rooms."

Describing the "anti-blowpipe" type of safe, built on the understanding that it could be left, fully loaded, over a week-end, to resist the use of both liquid explosives and cutting flame, whether generated by gas or electricity, Mr. Chubb said the principle in its construction was that the actual strength of the safe should be the last thing to be attacked. They were now building their heaviest safes with the strongest plates inside. Thus the outer plate changed its position and became the inner line of defence. The advantages were obvious, for as the attack proceeded so the difficulties increased, the burglar's area for operation diminished, and his field of vision became less.

In strong rooms, provided there were good strong walls properly designed, the one weak spot which had to be blocked up was the doorway. In the new design the door itself consisted of a hollow cast-steel manganese box two inches thick all over and about two feet deep. Externally this was very accurately machined so as to ensure that it made a metal to metal joint with its surrounding frame, which was cast in one piece out of the same metal. The interior of the box was filled up to a depth of about 16 inches with the doorplate of armour-plate and unburnable alloy, together with its additional flame-resisting covering.

In front of the flame protector and directly behind the two-inch slab of manganese steel was placed an electric screen, which gave an alarm on being penetrated by any method. The driving mechanism of the bolts was controlled by four keyless combination locks, which could be used either singly or in pairs. An additional control was given by a time lock, containing four chronometer movements. It could be set in such a way that it would not permit of the door being opened, even by those in possession of the combination, until the pre-arranged hour. This lock was invented in consequence of a burglary, when a bank manager disclosed his combination at the point of a revolver.

THE NOBLE REDSKIN

Claim of Canadian Indians to Rank as Independent Nation

Hamilton, Ont., Jan. 8.

A commission of three, all British subjects, will determine the status of the Six Nations Indians in their dispute with the Canadian Government over autonomy, it was announced to-day by the Six Nations Council.

The Indians have accepted the proposal of Mr. Charles Stewart, Minister of the Interior, who announced that he immediately would name the members of the commission, and instruct it to begin the arbitration proceedings as soon as possible.

Chief Deskahen, of the Six Nations Council, recently appealed to the diplomatic representative of the Government of the Netherlands at Washington to present a petition of the Indians to the League of Nations, asking settlement of the dispute by the International body. It was announced to-day he had agreed to withdraw this petition and leave settlement of the dispute to the commission.

The Indians claim to be an independent nation, and not British subjects. It is understood one bit of evidence to be submitted to the commission in support of this claim will be a passport issued by the Six Nations Council to Chief Levu General in July, 1921, when he represented the Six Nations at the court of King George. It is claimed that the passport was accepted in England as giving him diplomatic standing, and was viséed by Mr. R. B. Rhodes, United States Vice-Consul at London, and by the immigration authorities of Great Britain and Canada.—Reuter.

A PREHISTORIC SIBERIAN MAMMOTH

There has just been added to the prehistoric peeps at the Natural History Museum, London, the skull and tusks complete of a Siberian mammoth. Dr. Smith Woodward says that this is the first specimen of a Siberian mammoth skull that has ever come to England. It will soon be displayed near the famous mammoth dug up at Ilford in 1864 and the towering skeleton mastodon from America. The other day, writes a Press correspondent, in the basement of the Museum an expert was found polishing up the beautiful six feet long tusks—smooth and cream-coloured—till they looked as perfect as if the creature died yesterday instead of tens of thousands or perhaps millions of years ago.

The skull was dug out of the ice on one of the Siberian islands in the Arctic. Preserved in cold storage through unknown ages, it is wonderfully fresh, even to the fragments of flesh and skin sticking on the great jaws. From examining the teeth, which were in splendid condition and about the diameter

of a saucer, the experts know that this was a full-grown female mammoth. The ice has kept the bones of the head perfectly clean and white. Usually fossil ivory is stained brown or black from the earth. The skull came to London in the ordinary way of trade, and has been bought by the Museum authorities from a firm of ivory merchants on Tower Hill.

Fossilized ivory is occasionally dug up in Siberia and exported to Europe. It is said in the trade that mammoth ivory is often of better quality than that of Indian elephant tusks. The ivory of prehistoric mammoths is, for example, better adapted for making billiard balls than the ivory of to-day. For all one knows, Inman may perform his marvels with a bit of ivory belonging to a creature that roamed the swamps and forests unimaginable years ago. Commonly when the Siberian natives discover these fossilized skulls they simply saw off the tusks as the only saleable part, but by a happy accident the skull and tusks have been sent to England complete.

The new mammoth will help to confute the current text-books as to the way in which these enormous tusks were set in the animal's head. Most of the pictures in the books are taken from a restoration of the mammoth in the Petrograd Museum, in which the missing tusks are conjecturally supplied to the skeleton and set curling outwards in a curious and unbusiness-like manner. These curly tusks belong to one's childish impression of what a mammoth was like. The falsity of the common picture was disproved by the Ilford mammoth in 1864, whose tusks were found still in their original position in the skull. Roughly, they curve in the same way that an elephant's tusks do, outwards and upwards. The mammoth of the textbooks would be sadly handicapped in a fight.

There are some magnificent mammoth tusks in the Museum which are at least, 12 feet long. They would be worth something like £150 as ivory in the market. Sometimes mammoths are got out of the ice so wonderfully preserved that flesh is still on the bones as well as the long brown hair that the animal wore. There are in the cases at South Kensington pieces of skin an inch thick with the rough hair still there that kept the giant warm through primæval winters. In one specimen that was brought to light in Russia many years ago the bones were cleared of flesh by wolves and foxes. The internal organs were fairly complete, and by examining the heart the scientists were able to say exactly how it had died—from a sudden heart attack while it was chewing the piece of grass found between its teeth. The beast had collapsed in a hollow by a river bank, and its body, clothed with skin and flesh, was found geological ages after, "spread-eagled" out just as it fell.

The new Siberian mammoth was recently shown at a meeting of the Zoological Society.

COTTON FROM SUDAN

Great Scheme of Development to Meet British Demand

London, Jan. 3.

In view of the threatened shortage of American cotton for the Lancashire mills and the resulting serious position in which England's textile industry is likely to be placed, British official circles are directing considerable attention to development schemes in the Sudan by which it is estimated Egypt's annual production of long staple cotton can soon be increased 110,000 bales.

A loan is about to be issued, guaranteed by the British Government, to provide for the construction of a 217-mile extension of the Sudan railways to Kassala in order to make possible the expansion of the cotton-growing area in the delta of the river Gash, at the same time opening Eastern Sudan for the export of cereals and cattle.

Within a few years of the opening of the railway extension it is stated that 100,000 acres of cotton will be grown annually, and eventually a considerably larger area will be cultivated in this district.

A further loan is soon to be raised to finance the building of a dam at Makawar, on the Blue River, and a canalization system for the irrigation and development of a large cotton area in the El Gezira district south of Khartoum. Contracts for this work have already been let, and the first crop will be planted in 1925. The El Gezira scheme is capable of the development of 3,000,000 acres, but is to be limited to 100,000 acres for the present.—Reuter.

200,000,000 PINS A DAY

Where Do They All Go?

It has been stated on what is supposed to be good authority that the world's total output of pins is at the rate of 200,000,000 a day. If so it may seem surprising that the world isn't becoming carpeted with pins. We know how easily they are lost—where do they go to? Most of them decay into nothingness, for actually, the pin is not such a time defying object as it seems. Every pin dropped in a damp place soon turns into a few grains of rust.

With new pins turned out by machinery in such immense numbers, our grandmothers' maxims about picking up pins are forgotten, but in the 14th century, when pins were first introduced, they were valuable articles not to be lightly lost, recalls "Everyday Science." An old law permitted the sale of pins on only two days of the year, the first and second of January. It was then the custom of all the women folk to buy their pins for the following 12 months. As is still customary they went to their husbands or fathers for the wherewithal and hence the term "pin money."

MAIL NOTICES

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PASSENGERS

INWARD

Per str. Hsin Peking, February 2. From Ningpo. Mr. C. Edmunds, Mr. Wilcox, Mr. and Mrs. Hylbert.

Per str. Suiwo, February 2. From River Ports. Mr. George, Masters R. Kelly and S. Kelly, Mr. A. William, Mr. A. Pator.

Per str. Ngankin, February 3. From River Ports. Rev. F. J. Dawson and Dr. P. J. Donghue.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, February 3. From Ningpo. Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Meull, Misses N. B. Duncan, Pettie and E. M. Sauss.

Per str. Kanchow, February 3. From Hongkong. Captain and Mrs. McGarity, Miss T. A. Bell, Messrs. McPherson, Taylor, Glass and Elliot.

Per str. Shuntien, February 3. From Tientsin. Capt. and Mrs. Lenton, Mr. Mills, Master Nipps, Misses Tomkinson, White, Master Anderson, Mrs. E. E. Clark, Miss Stewart, Mr. Child, 15 Military Details.

Per str. Kiangwah, February 4. From River Ports. Miss J. Pulters.

Per str. Hsin Peking, February 4. From Ningpo. Messrs. C. Pauncey, T. Lamkerty, A. Camblar, Capt. A. Watson, Rev. Sheppard and Miss Andie.

Per str. Tuckwo, February 5. From River Ports. Mr. J. A. Jones, Masters Bannan (2), Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Peters, Mrs. A. Reid, Mr. and Mrs. Holden, Mrs. T. S. Nazer and Mr. A. Hanson.

Per str. Kutwo, February 6. From River Ports. Baron Sadoine.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, February 6. From Ningpo. Misses Adams, Jewell, Messrs. Stobie and W. Bates.

Per str. Kiangshun, February 6. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. Fillmore, Mr. and Mrs. Garnett, Misses Simpson and Cullum.

Per str. R.M.S. Empress of Australia, February 6. From Vancouver, etc. Misses M. Bliss, E. Bressani, Sister A. Barnett, Messrs. G. W. Bowler, C. H. Benson, D. E. Courtney, P. Cardeillas, S. M. David, S. H. De Vault, Miss V.

Elias, Mr. A. H. Fair, Sister C. Finn, Messrs. E. W. Foster, J. O. W. Gravelly, Sr., Mrs. J. W. Gale, Mr. H. Goodwin, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Gordon, Master C. H. Gordon, Messrs. H. W. Harkness, P. Harper, Mr. and Mrs. E. Hayim, Mr. M. Haehnel, Sister M. D. Ingram, Messrs. S. E. Levy, P. M. Luca, Dr. D. G. Little, Mrs. M. Little, Rev. Fr. J. Lavelle, Mr. H. G. Myhre, Dr. and Mrs. J. E. Murray, Misses J. and O. Murray, Rev. Fr. P. Mismar, Mr. Z. Nishida, Mr. and Mrs. F. O'Hare, Messrs. C. B. Pitt, J. Plagemann, Rev. Fr. E. Sheehan, Mrs. E. E. Stewart, Master J. Stewart, Misses A. Stevens, D. K. Tarling, Messrs. W. H. Towell, W. P. Thompson, E. Weber, M. Wada, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Billing, Misses M. and E. Billing, Masters B. and L. Billing, Rev. J. B. Birkey, Mrs. J. C. Birkey, Miss W. J. Burlinson, Dr. and Mrs. D. E. Davenport, Masters R., D. and R. Davenport, Father P. Durand, Mr. K. C. Hart, Miss M. Davenport, Messrs. M. Hirano, T. T. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Leise, Master H. R. and Miss D. I. Leise, Dr. C. Leach, Miss M. Moennick, Rev. and Mrs. H. A. MacKubbin, Rev. and Mrs. L. R. Rist, Miss E. Rist, Masters E. and L. Rist, Father C. Stern, Mr. T. Thong, Miss E. Young, Mr. and Mrs. T. Shapiro, Messrs. J. M. Haskael and V. Rosenblum.

Per str. Hsin Ningshao, February 7. From Ningpo. Mr. G. Davies.

Per str. Tatung, February 7. From River Ports. Mrs. C. H. Martin, Messrs. Alexander, S. H. Clarke, T. S. Keading, Two Franciscan Sisters.

Per str. Hsin Peking, February 7. From Ningpo. Messrs. R. Millican, P. and D. Gustafson, J. Benjamin, W. Hatton, J. Ryder, W. Montgomery, Capt. C. Grey, Misses J. Lawrence and C. Hill.

Per str. Shantung, February 8. From Hongkong. Mr. W. Carrick.

Per str. Changsha, February 8. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. Kiasem and Mr. Black.

Per str. Loongwo, February 8. From River Ports. Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. Gale, Mrs. Antoo-fieff, Messrs. J. W. Carnec and J. L. Poale.

Per str. Hsin Kiangteen, February 8. From Ningpo. Rt. Rev. Bishop H. J. Molony, Rev. J. S. Shoemaker, Dr. J. S. Grant, Messrs. C. H. Lavers, M. Durst, H. C. Edmund and F. C. Wilcox.

OUTWARD

Per M.M.S. Cordillere. January 2.—For Marseilles—Mr. A. Guimberteau, Mr. and Mrs. H. Vaucher, Mr. and Mrs. F. Sauvage, Mr. and Mrs. M. Floca, Mr. L. Perior, Mr. V. M. Zakomeisky, Mr. and Mrs. Kapnist, Mr. A. Lefevre, Mr. J. Cantin, Mr. J. Blanchery, Mr. R. Deltour, Mr. L. Sagons, Mr. Broussard. For Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Culpeck.

For Saigon—Mr. M. Vaucher. For Haiphong—Mr. H. Andre, Mrs. A. Wilden, Mrs. Straetmans. For Hongkong—Mr. C. Nopper, Mr. J. Gonsalves, Miss G. Gonsalves, Sisters Sueanne and Marie, Miss A. Senna, Miss M. Azarenkoff.

Per A.L.S. President Jackson, February 2.—For Hongkong—Mr. E. M. P. Jer, Mr. S. B. Ellis, Miss M. Howard, Mr. M. G. Scott, Mr. C. Bacci, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Olive, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Barrison, Mrs. A. H. Compton, Miss A. Compton, Miss C. Compton, Mr. P. W. Massey, Miss M. Wheeler, Miss K. Wheeler, Mr. G. R. Laurenz, Mrs. F. Bright, Master H. Olive. For Manila—Mr. F. L. Robins, Mrs. G. Ukita, Mr. T. Ukita, Mr. L. Freeman, Miss F. Burkhead, Mrs. J. A. Gaitner, Mrs. E. R. England, Mr. H. M. Cotter, Miss B. Keith, Miss M. Bannser, Miss M. B. Siedel, Miss N. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Sewell.

Per P. & O. S. Nellore, February 3.—For Colombo—Mr. A. R. Pell, Miss R. Nathorst, Mr. E. K. Pagh. For Hongkong—Mrs. F. Bright, Mr. L. Caliumi, Miss C. Carr, Messrs. E. Karlstrom, A. Pasquinelli, J. Rothman. For Singapore—Mr. A. A. Dopke. For London—Mrs. F. Elliott, Messrs. T. M. Love, J. Small, Engr. Comdr. J. L. Sands Mrs. Sands, Masters Sands and D. Wheeler.

BIRTHS

BREWER.—On February 4, 1923, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Brewer, twins (boy and girl).

CLARK.—On February 4, 1923, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Clark, a son.

DENTON.—On February 4, 1923, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. R. A. E. Denton, a son.

EITTER.—On February 7, 1923, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Eitter, a daughter.

ENCARNACAO.—On February 3, 1923, at St. Mary's Hospital, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Encarnacao, a son.

GRAM-JENSEN.—On February 5, 1923, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Gram-Jensen, a daughter. (Hongkong papers please copy).

GUTERRES.—On February 4, 1923, at Watanabe Hospital, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Guterres, a son.

HOLLAND.—On February 2, 1923, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. V. J. B. Holland, a son.

SPURGEON.—On February 7, 1923, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Spurgeon, a daughter (née Rose Ethel Sullivan). Hongkong papers please copy.

MARRIAGE

SARJEANT-CHASTY.—On February 7, 1923, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, Ralph Lionel Sarjeant to Matilda Chasty.

DEATHS

HARTLEY.—On January 6, 1923, at Hornsea, East Yorkshire, Dorothy, beloved wife of A. Clifford Hartley, C.E., only daughter of Gavin Wallace, O.M.S.N. Co., in her 25th year. Deeply regretted.

HOPWOOD.—On February 2, 1923, at Ningpo, Louisa Mary Hopwood, of the Christians' Mission, aged 79 years.

KIRKLAND.—On January 29, 1923, at Shanghai, from double pneumonia, Lawrence Henry Kirkland.

RIDGE.—On Saturday, February 3, 1923, at Peking, Mary Louisa, the beloved wife of William Sheldon Ridge, of Peking, formerly of Shanghai, aged 47 years.

SAES.—On February 7, 1923, at No. 26 Tracey Terrace, Shanghai, Mrs. Josephine Saes (*née* Kasprov).

SCHROTH.—On February 3, 1923, at Shanghai, William J. Schroth. The funeral was held at Bubbling Well Cemetery, Shanghai, on February 4, 1923. (Japanese papers please copy.)

WEBSTER.—On December 22, 1922, in a Nursing Home, Edinburgh, after a short illness, Mrs. Webster, wife of Dr. James Webster, U.F.S. Mission, Edinburgh, and late of Manchuria, China.

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these too often fatal diseases:—

FEVER, CROUP, AGUE.

The only Palliative in

**NEURALGIA, GOUT,
RHEUMATISM, TOOTHACHE.**

SICCAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer.		Wind		Hygrometer 9 a.m.		Thermometer in Shade		Weather conditions
	9 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Direction 9 a.m.	Force (1-12)	Dry	Wet	Max.	Min.	
Feb. 2	30.39	47.7	W N W	1	33.6	29.8	50.2	20.5	B.
" 3	30.19	49.7	S	1	38.5	34.4	56.5	27.5	B.
" 4	30.41	50.4	N N E	1	37.4	33.1	46.8	28.2	B.
" 5	30.47	51.1	N N E	2	35.1	31.3	38.3	33.1	O.
" 6	30.47	48.4	N	1	32.6	29.2	40.8	29.3	O.
" 7	30.47	48.9	N	1	32.6	29.4	40.7	21.7	O.
" 8	30.50	48.9	N N W	1	32.6	28.0	45.1	21.0	B.

Explanation

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.)				Rainfall	
	Minimum		Maximum		Inches	
	1923	1922	1923	1922	1923	1922
Feb. 2	26.2	38.0	48.8	48.8	Nil.	0.10
" 3	33.0	32.4	54.0	42.4	Nil.	0.25
" 4	32.0	30.6	44.0	49.2	Nil.	Trace.
" 5	32.0	33.4	38.0	55.0	Snow.	Nil.
" 6	31.0	41.8	39.0	55.8	Nil.	0.10
" 7	25.2	45.0	40.2	53.8	Nil.	0.52
" 8	26.8	36.8	42.0	57.2	Nil.	Nil.

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IN CASE OF Eczema, Blotches, Pimples, Bolls, Eruptions, Bad Legs, Abscesses, Ulcers, Piles, Glandular Swellings, Rheumatism, Gout, you should realise that lotions, ointments, etc., can only give temporary benefit—to be sure of complete and lasting relief you MUST thoroughly cleanse the blood of the poisonous waste matter, the one cause of all such troubles—Clarke's Blood Mixture contains ingredients which quickly overcome and expel the impurities, that's why so many lasting cures stand to its credit. Pleasant to take and free from anything injurious.

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Grey: Wanderer of the Wasteland ... 4.00



Haggard: The Virgin of the Sun ... \$3.50
Kyne: Cappy Ricks Retires 4.00
Kyne: The Three Godfathers 2.00
Lewis: Babbitt 4.00
Lucke: The Tale of Triona 4.00
McCutcheon: Viola Gwyn 4.00
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